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Oregon Territory

Secretary of ~~State's~~

Letter Book

1853-5,

Secretary's Official Letters - Oregon Terr.

Secretary's Office,
Salem, Oreg.
May 16th, 1833

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I took the oath of Office at Oregon City on the 14th inst at which place I relieved C. Hamilton, Esq. from the further discharge of his duties as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon, and removed such portion of the public property as remained in his hands to this place, the Seat of government of the Territory, where I arrived this day.

It is, perhaps, proper that I should remark that I found my predecessor without funds to turn over to me as disbursing Agent &c.

I am now awaiting the form of Bonds with such instructions as may be furnished me in accordance with the act "to establish the Territorial Government of Oregon" passed 11th Feb.

With great respect Sir, I remain
Your Obedient Servant

Hon.

Wm. L. Marcy
Secy of State U.S.
Washington.

Geo. L. Curry.
Secretary of the Territory of Oregon.

Secretary's Office,
Salem, May 18th, 1833

C. Hamilton Esq.,
Oregon City, Sir.

As I find nothing among the books and papers of this office, giving any

information as to the condition of the various appropriations by Congress for this Territory, properly under the charge of the Secretary, will you have the goodness to let me know whether there is any unexpended balance remaining? and if so, how much?

As soon as it is convenient I would be obliged if you would forward the official correspondence pertaining to the office.

Upon unpacking, I do not find the copy of the Journal of the House, spoken of, and conclude that it still remains in your office. I have written to Mr. Bush accordingly.

Very Respectfully
Geo. S. Curry.

Secretary's Office
Salem, May 24th 1833.

E. Hamilton Esq.,
Oregon City.

Dear Sir,

By the last mail, of Thursday of last week, I wrote you requesting from you a statement of the condition of the several appropriations for this Territory, properly under your charge as a disbursing officer of the general government here, as I find nothing in the books and papers which you have turned over to me, as your successor, affording me the least information in relation thereto.

Apprehending that my communication may have miscarried, I take this occasion to renew my request.

I do not wish to put the Treasury Department to any unnecessary trouble in obtaining the desired information, and have therefore communicated with you direct.

The official correspondence of my predecessor should all be in this office.

Any communication you may address me please
place in the hands of H. E. Hovey Esq. or B. F. Harding
Esq., who will call on you for that purpose.

I am, Sir, respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Geo. L. Curry,
Sec'y Territory of Oregon.

Secretary's Office, Oregon,
Oreum, June 6th, 1833.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec'y of Treasury U.S.,
Washington

Sir,

I have the honor to in-
form you that I find nothing among the books and
files of this office that affords the least information
as to the condition of the various appropriations of Con-
gress for this Territory, properly coming under charge
of the Secretary as a disbursing officer. Neither
has a dollar in funds been turned over to me by
my predecessor. The files of his official correspon-
dence have not as yet been placed in my possession.
And, as a correspondence has failed to
elicit from him the information I deem it my right
to have, which is, whether the appropriations for this
Territory, so far as concerns this office, have or
have not been entirely expended, I am necessi-
tated to solicit of you the desired information knowl-
edge. Accruals are outstanding against the
government which are, without doubt, just and shall
have been paid by my predecessor, and I am anxious
to liquidate them if means can be reached to enable
me to do so.

You will have the goodness to appreciate the im-
portance of the matter and afford me the opportunity

may be proper and consistent.

If there are any special forms prepared by the department in the keeping of accounts, in the taking of vouchers, or instructions as to disbursements, I should be very happy to receive them.

Sometime since I had the honor to inform the department, through which I received my commission, that I had entered upon the discharge of my duties and was awaiting the form of bond that will, doubtless, be required of me.

I am Sir, respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Geo. L. Curry,
Sec'y Territory of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, July 6th, 1853.

Hon. James Guthrie
Secretary Treasury U.S.
Sir,

I have the honor to request that twelve thousand dollars of the appropriation for this Territory for the present fiscal year, "for compensation and mileage of the members of the Legislative Assembly, officers, clerks and contingent expenses of the Assembly," be forwarded, with all convenient despatch, in drafts on New York of five hundred dollars each. I should prefer that the funds for the Territory might be forwarded as I have desired rather than in specie, for the reason that they can be more securely kept.

I am Sir, respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Geo. L. Curry
Sec'y Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office,
Salem, July 1st 1853.

His Excellency
Franklin Pierce,
President of the U.S.

Sir,

I have the honor, herewith,
to transmit you, in accordance with the act
of Congress "to establish the Territorial Government
of Oregon" "one copy of the "Executive Proceed-
ings" and "Official Correspondence" of this Terri-
tory.

I am, Sir, respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Geo. L. Curry
Sec'y of the Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, July 6th, 1853.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec'y of Treas. U.S.

Sir,

I had the honor to address
you a communication on the 6th ult., soliciting
information in regard to the various appropriations
for this Territory properly coming under charge of the
Secretary thereof as a disbursing officer &c. If the
account current of the appropriations for each
year could be furnished me it would be very
desirable, as I wish to ascertain whether any por-
tion of those appropriations remains unexpen-
ded.

Mr. Bush, Territorial Printer, has an account
for 1850 & 51 unsettled, in reference to which he has

shown me the copy of a letter from Mr. Whittelsey, Comptroller of the Treasury - dated Oct 14th, 1832, - to my predecessor E. Hamilton Esq. The official correspondence of the office not having been turned over to me, as I before informed you, I have not the benefit of the information it might, doubtless, furnish me.

A letter from Mr. Whittelsey to Messrs Seady and Harding, presiding officers at the last session of the Legislative Assembly, dated 31st of March last in reference to and allowing those gentlemen extra pay as such officers has been exhibited to me. This precedent will involve the payment of other gentlemen who were speakers of other sessions of the Assembly, to wit: W. W. Bush, President of the Council, Ralph Wiley, Speaker of the House 1830 & 37. - Saml. Parker, President of the Council and Wm. M. King, Speaker of the House 1851 and '52, who claim the extra per diem for those extra services.

There are other outstanding accounts, which without doubt are just and should be paid, but being destitute of any instructions in reference to disbursements - none having been turned over to me by my predecessor, and being unacquainted with the condition of the appropriations for former years - I have been reluctant to act concerning them, until I learn further from the Department.

I am, Sir, respectfully

Yours Obedient Servant

Geo. L. Barry,
U.S. Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office,
Salem Aug 31st 1833.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
Compt'r Treas. U.S.
Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th ult. The forms which you speak of having sent, to wit: "Forms for an account current, for abstract of the amount of the several invoices and for vouchers", have not been received. I should be thankful to have them reach me.

I had the honor to be informed, four months ago, by the Hon. Wm. L. Marcy, Secretary of State, that "the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," had appointed me on the 15th day of March, A.D. 1833, Secretary of the Territory of Oregon. The same communication enclosed my commission. I had the honor, also, to inform the Dept of State, under date of the 16th of May, last, that I had taken the oath prescribed by law, and had entered upon the discharge of my duty.

If I had supposed, however, that inasmuch as my not having entered into bond was no omission, fault of mine, but a matter resting solely with the Treasury Dept - who do not see fit until upwards of five months after my appointment to name the penalty of my bond and send me instructions relative to the discharge of my official duties - that I should have been spared the embarrassment and difficulty in the performance of those duties, which now seem inevitable,

If, as you seem to indicate, I cannot make a requisition for such portion of the appropriation for the expenses of the Territory, as may be actually necessary, until after I shall have been advised of the approval of my bond, I will be ~~therein~~ entirely

upon my own ^{or chance} resources to furnish suitable accommodations for the meeting of the Legislative Assembly (there being no public buildings yet erected) and to defray the incidental expenses of the same, as well as the per diem and mileage of the members. Six months time being required under your instructions, to enable me to receive a return to my requisition.

I have nevertheless conceived it to be my duty and promotive of the interests of the Territory to renew my requisition of the 6th ultimo, ~~the~~ what increased in amount; but more, however in accordance with your instructions, which I do by this mail, addressing the Secretary of the Treasury in - If the requisition be complied with promptly the funds will not reach me until December and after the Assembly shall have convened.

I have the honor herewith to enclose my bond executed I trust to the satisfaction and approval of the Dept.:- also a certified extract from the ~~Journal of the~~ ^{Journal of the} Executive ~~Journal~~ of proceedings of the Territory giving the record of my official oath according to certificate filed. The Magistrate who administered the oath lives at a distance. I will get a duplicate certificate from him however and forward, but I fear I will not be able to do so before the departure of the mail.

I am, Sir, with respect
Your Obedient Serv't

G. W. Curry
Secretary of the Territory of Oregon,

Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office,
Salem, Aug 31 1833.

Hon James Guthrie
Secy Treas. U.S.

Sir,

Upwards of five ^{months} after my appointment to the office which I have the honor to hold and nearly four months since I entered upon the discharge of the duties of the office, I have had the honor to receive from Hon. Elisha Whittelsey, First Comptroller of the Treasury, a form of bond with directions as to its execution and instructions as to the discharge of my official duties. The bond executed I trust to your satisfaction has been forwarded, agreeably to instruction to the Comptroller's Office. As it was through no omission or fault of mine that I had not sooner entered into bond - the penalty of which being subject to the will of the Dept - I am well aware my observing that the delay in the matter is somewhat remarkable, the more especially as it would seem to be the occasion, in the spirit of Mr Whittelsey's instructions to me, of embarrassment and trouble to me in the prompt and efficient discharge of the duties of my office.

If, as indicated by Mr Whittelsey, I cannot make a requisition for such portion of the appropriation for the expenses of the Territory as are immediately required, until after I shall have been advised of the approval of my bond, six months will have been consumed before I will have received a return to my requisition, and as the Legislative Assembly meets in December next, the period will have passed in which payments should be made in the settlement of accounts upon which there can be no question - the terms and service being fixed by Act of Congress - as for instance the per diem and mileage of members of the Assembly, together with

the pay of the Clerks and other officers of said body.

As you will readily perceive this will place me in an extremely embarrassing and unpleasant situation, without alluding to the injustice it would inflict upon other parties. In view of this state of affairs and to remedy as much as possible their unhappy realization I have deemed it incumbent upon me, not as a duty, than as promotive of the political welfare of our Territory to make the Subjoined Requisition at this time; I have therefore the honor to request that you will be pleased to forward with all consistent dispatch in drafts of one thousand dollars each, on New York, or in any otherwise so that the money may be ~~securely~~ and surely realized, such portion of the appropriation for the expenses of the Territory for the present fiscal year as I shall proceed to particularize in accordance with the instructions from Mr. Whittelsey:

For compensation and mileage of members of Legislative Assembly, Officers &c	6500 00
--	---------

For rent of halls and Committee rooms for Assembly, at \$50 per Annum (No public building having yet been created)	400 00
--	--------

For fitting up and furnishing said Halls, carpeting, chairs, desks &c	800 00
---	--------

For rent of Executive and Secretary's offices per Annum	350 00
---	--------

For Stationery, fuel, lights and other contingent expenses	450 00
--	--------

For payment of the Salary of Territorial Librarian for six months, ~~now due~~ , and for rent of Library room	350 00
--	--------

For payment of acct of Marshal Park by Territorial printer, for work executed, to wit:	8850 00
--	---------

Printing the laws and journals of the Assembly Session of 1832 and 3, and for incidental printing at said session, at rates approved by the Comptroller in the

settlement of his accounts of last year and
paid by my predecessor

7490 00.
8850
16,340 00

I am, Sir, with respect
Your Obedient Servant

Geo. L. Curry
Terry Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, Sept 15th, 1853.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
Comptroller Treasury, U.S.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st of July last in reference to the account of Robert Moore Esq, for printing, and directing its payment.

Being unable to comply with your request from the fact that no funds have been placed in my possession, as I have heretofore apprised the department, and while the payment of the account remains thus suspended, I have deemed it best to advise with you in reference thereto, under the impression that there may be some misunderstanding concerning it.

My predecessor, E. Hamilton Esq, under date of the 25th of May last thus writes to me; "Robert Moore presented me with an account of some \$500 for advertising the laws, enclosed in the pamphlet, published by him, in the election in 1850. I declined paying it for want of some evidence that he was employed to advertise

from laws in his paper, and returned it to him to prove it, if such was the fact. Since which I have heard nothing from him on the subject. He relies on the allowance of the account by the Assembly last winter. Therefore the Department has not been bound by such allowances or orders. What may be done hereafter I know not. He also claims a balance due him on former printing account for the pamphlet, and for executive advertising."

I have not seen Mr Moore's account, but if, as I infer, it is mainly for publishing in his newspaper, the "Spectator" certain acts which the Assembly had authorized to be printed in pamphlet form, then I say it is not right that he should make such charge. I was a member of the Assembly of 1838, and know that he was not authorized by any joint action thereof to publish those laws otherwise than in pamphlet form. He did publish them, however, using the same form from which the pamphlet had been printed and was therefore at no additional expense in the setting of type. It was a matter interesting to the readers of his paper, and inasmuch as it was already in type saved him that much expense in making up his paper. The Assembly of 1838-9, allowed him \$900, for printing, being within \$291 of the account he presented at the time, a copy of which I enclose. What amount of the sum of \$900 has been paid to Mr Moore, by my predecessor, I do not know, but suppose that he was paid that amount in full.

I am inclined to think that the action of the Assembly in the passage of the act of Jan. 31, 1833, was altogether hasty, without due consideration or understanding.

I should be pleased to know whether

Your mind remains unchanged in regard
to the payment of the account.

I am, Sir, with respect
Your Obedient Servt

Geo. L. Curry
Secy Territory of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, Sept 15th 1833.

Hon. Eliza Whittles
The Compt Treasury U.S.

Sir,

I have the honor to en-
close herewith for your consideration and determina-
tion, the account of W. Chapman for \$4200, for
services rendered at the session of the Assembly of
1832-3. I was a member of that body at the time
and am knowing to the fact that the service
was performed. The account was likewise al-
lowed by the Assembly at the time. It has remained
unsettled up to this day. Also the accounts
of C. N. Terry, Clerk of the Council for \$350, and
R. J. White Clerk of the House for the like sum
for transcribing the laws of the last session. Assembly
for the Territorial printer agreeably to the act of
the Assembly, passed 17th Jan, 1833. I have the
honor to forward a copy of the Section of the Law re-
lating to the matter. These gentlemen performed ef-
ficiently the duty required of them by law, and their
claims remain unpaid.

I am, Sir, with respect
Your Obedient Servt

Geo. L. Curry
Secy Territory of Oregon

Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office
Salem, Sept 16th 1833.

Hon. Eliza Whittier,
1st Compt Treasury U.S.
Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th July last. I do not remember having written any letter to the Department of the date and character alluded to. Nevertheless permit me to observe that precedent, as well as the act of 14th August 1828 would seem to justify me in claiming my salary from the date of Commission Messrs Pitkin and Hamilton, former Secretaries of the Territory were paid from date of Commission the latter while the former was discharging the duties of the Office.

The instructions and letters to Mr. Hamilton, from the Comptroller's Office, have not been turned over to me, nor do I find among the files of the Office any official correspondence, as I have before informed the Department.

I am Sir with respect

Yr Obedient Serv't

Geo L. Carr,
Secy Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office
Salem, Sept 30th, 1833.

Hon. Eliza Whittier,
1st Compt Treasury U.S.
Sir,

I have the honor to

inform you that I have this day made a draft on the Treasurer of the United States for two thousand dollars in favor of Asahel Bush Esq. Territorial Printer for services rendered by him. I have made this draft from the fact that there are several thousand dollars due to Mr. Bush for work executed, the payment for which has been due several months. He stands in need of the money, and as my requisition of the 31st August last will not place me in funds until some three months hence, I have deemed it no more than justice to him to make the above mentioned draft in his favor for that proportion of his account.

I am, Sir, with respect

Yours Obedient Servant

Geo. S. Curry,

Secy of the Territory of Ore.

Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office
Salem, Sept 25th 1833.

J. Casey Esq.

Treasurer of the U.S.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I have this day ~~made~~ drawn on you for two thousand dollars in favor of Asahel Bush Esq. Territorial Printer.

I will please honor the draft and charge to the appropriation for defraying the expenses of the Territory.

I have written to the Comptroller of the Treasury in reference to the subject.

I am, Sir, with respect,

Yours Obedient Servant

Geo. S. Curry,

Secy of the Territory of Ore.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, Oct 7th, 1833.

Hon J. M. Ramsey
Acting Comptroller Treas. U.S.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 5th August last. Some two weeks since, a portion of the correspondence on the part of the Government with my predecessor, E. Hamilton Esq., was placed in this office.

No files of vouchers have been turned over, nor anything whatever that tends to show what accounts have been settled and the condition of the office in regard to receipts and disbursement.

I am Sir, with respect

Yrs Obedient Servant

Geo. L. Curry
Secy Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office,
Salem, Oct 7th 1833

Hon James Guthrie
Secy of the Treasury, U.S.

Sir,

I have the honor to call your attention to acts passed at the last Session of the Legislative Assembly, entitled "An act to create a Board of Commissioners to prepare a Code of laws for the Territory of Oregon," and an act to provide for the collection and publication of the laws and Archives of Oregon," pages 57 and 65 general laws, pamphlet edition. I wish to know whether I am authorized to settle the indebtedness incurred under these acts. If so I would desire to make a requisition for a

sufficient fund for that purpose - say ten thousand dollars. The Code Commissioners have nearly completed their labors and their report will be submitted on the meeting of the Assembly in December. The pay of the Commissioners, Clerk hire and cost of printing the report, will, I am inclined to think reach the sum, (six thousand dollars) named in the Act. The expenditure under the other act will I apprehend be in the vicinity of four thousand dollars.

The object of both these acts is unquestionably good. The necessity of a Code of laws has been much experienced - and the publication of the public papers of the Provisional Government will be a work full of interest and at the same time place those old documents in a shape that will insure their preservation.

I am, Sir, with great respect,

Yours Obedient Servant

Geo. B. Curry,
Secy Territory of Oregon.

Union of Oregon
Secretary's Office,
Salem, Nov 16th 1853.

Wm. Cassin Mather
Int Compt Treasury U.S.

Sir,

I herewith enclose for your consideration and judgment a demand of Wm. H. Astor, agreeably to contract between him and my predecessor C. Hamilton Esq. It should be observed that the item for rent of library room was paid at the sum named in compliance of a reduced price for the rent of a depository for books being conceded in the past of the

Director's letter.

Mr. letter of the 24th Sept last has been received. Had my predecessor left any record of his monetary transactions in this office, the statement which you have had the politeness to furnish me, with, perhaps, fewer clerical errors in its transcript, would have been less ambiguous and of greater service.

I am Sir with respects

Your Obedient Servant

Geo. A. Curry
Secretary of Territory of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, Dec 10th, 1833.

Hon. James Guthrie

Secy of the Treasury, U.S.

Sir,

I have the honor to state that in my zeal to keep within the instructions from the Dep't relative to my official duties, I made a mistake in under estimating as to two items in my requisition of the 31st August last.

The per diem and mileage of members of the Legislative Assembly I estimated at \$500 as I perceive by my letter book. The per diem alone will amount to more than this sum. I have but just discovered the error and hasten to correct it, as follows:

Per diem of thirty five members - sixty days -	\$6900
Extra to Presiding officers	360
Two Chief clerks & per diem	\$400
Eight other officers	\$1400
For mileage of members	1000
	<u>9700</u>

Estimate contained in my requisition of 31st August last \$6500

... 3200

The item for fitting up and furnishing Legislative Hall

carpeting, chairs, desks, &c is under estimated

250

Whole amount of deficiency

5450

Will you therefore be pleased to forward me with all convenient despatch - in drafts that may be immediately available - the said sum of Three Thousand Four Hundred and fifty dollars.

Mr. Whittier, under date of Sept 6th, authorizes me to pay the authenticated claims for extra compensation as presiding officers of the Assembly. The following are the claims for such service.

Ralph Wilson, Speaker of House	69 days	207
W. W. Buck, President of Council	" "	207
W. M. King, Speaker of House	52 "	156
Saml Parker, Pres. of Council	" "	156
Bay F. Harding, Speaker of House	60 "	180
M. P. Seely, Pres. of Council	" "	180
		<u>1086</u>

As you must be aware, I will have no funds from which to pay these claims, as I have never estimated for them. You will please therefore to consider this as a requisition for the said sum of Ten Hundred and eighty six dollars.

I have forwarded, from time to time, the accounts of the subjoined named persons for services rendered during the time my predecessor, Mr. Hamilton was in office:

Robert Moore	\$500	W. Chapman	\$42.00	\$602.50
C. W. Terry	\$250	R. J. White	\$250	500.00
Mr. H. Reeler				451.66
				<u>\$1554.16</u>

If I am authorized to pay these accounts I will have to be placed in possession of funds especially for the purpose

I had the honor on the 7th October last to call your attention to certain laws of the Kentucky, and, in case of permission to liquidate the indebtedness accruing under them, to make a requisition sufficient

therefor

I am, Sir, with respect
your Obedient Servant

Geo. A. Curry
Secy of the Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem Dec 13th, 1833.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
H. Comptroller Treasury, U.S.

Sir,

I have the honor to state
that your letters of the 20th October and the 1st November
last have been received. The Department has my
acknowledgments for the promptness with which my
requisition of the 3rd of August has been complied
with. You will notice by reference to my letter
of the 31st August, addressed to you that certain forms
for an account current, for abstracts of the amount
of the several vouchers and for vouchers - said forms
been enclosed in your letter of the 14th July last were
not in that inclosure and have not come to hand.
I will be obliged to you if you will cause them
to be forwarded. In the meantime as I make
payments I will forward the vouchers, and
you will please excuse any deficiency as to
forms. I beg to call your attention to
the fact, that I have not received my salary
as Secretary for the quarter ending Sept 30th.
The second quarter is now nearly expired.
Taking into consideration the remoteness of our
territory, and the length of time required for
communication with the Department, would
there be any impropriety in the Dept. author-
izing the expiration of a quarter one thirty

says? Your attention is further directed to my
letter of the 16th August last relative to salary as
Acting Governor. Whatever sum is justly my
due you will confer a favor by forwarding as
before requested. Gov. Davis arrived at the
seat of Government on the 2nd inst.

I am Sir, with respect
Your Obedient Servant
Geo. L. Curry,
Secretary of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office,
Salem, Jan 1st 1834.

To the President of the United States,
Sir,

I have the honor
herewith to enclose a copy of the proceedings and
official correspondence of the Executive of the
Territory of Oregon, from the 1st day of July 1833,
to the 1st day of January 1834, in accordance
with Section 8th of the Act to establish the Terri-
torial Government of Oregon.

I have the honor to be
Your Obedient Servant
Geo. L. Curry,
Secy of the Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office,
Salem Jan 2^d, 1834

Hon. C. H. Nelson
Secretary of Washington Terr
Olympia, W. T.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 26th ult.

has been received. I send herewith for the library
of your Territory, a set of such printed public
matter as is now obtainable. The Executive
Journal, of course, is never put in print here,
it may have been however, among other doc-
uments at Washington. From the fact that the
edition of the Journals of the Assembly has been
limited to one hundred copies, these are now
hard to be obtained, except such as I forwarded
to you.

Please acknowledge the receipt of one copy
General Laws of Oregon, 1 copy each of "General
and Special Laws" 1831-2 & 1832-3, and 1 copy
Report of Code Commissioners.

I am respectfully
your Obedient Serv't

Geo. B. Curry

of
Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office,
Salem Feb'y 6th, 1834.

First Auditor
of the Treasury, Sir,

I have the honor, herewith, to
enclose for adjustment, my accounts for disbursements
as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon, comprising
an account Current, Abstracts, Nos 1, 2, and 3
of disbursements with vouchers in support
thereof.

I am, Sir, with respect
your Obedient Serv't

Geo. B. Curry
Secretary Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon,
Executive Office,
Salem, February 8th 1832.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller ^{of} Treasury, Sir.

I have the honor to inform you that on the 6th inst. I forwarded for adjustment to the First Auditor of the Treasury, all my accounts for disbursements up to that date. The payment of the accounts for incidental printing at session of 1831-2 and printing the laws and journals thereof has tended much to swell the aggregate of the disbursements. Yet these accounts were correct and justly due nearly a year before they were paid. I have accounts yet outstanding for expenses incurred at the session of the Assembly which expired on the 2^d inst. I therefore ask the attention of the Dept to my requisition of the 10th Dec. last in order that I may be enabled to pay those expenses together with others that accrued during the term of my predecessor, and which have been allowed by the Dept. In defraying the per diem and mileage of members, and the compensation of officers of the Assembly I was obliged to draw upon other estimates in consequence of the error I committed in estimating in my requisition of the 30th August last, of which I informed the Department in my communication of 10th December.

I have made a draft ^{for three thousand five hundred and ninety three and 25/100} payable to Mabel Bush, in person, (who leaves by the next mail steamer for Washington), for work performed as Territorial Printer - being for incidental printing of the session of the Assembly just closed, and a balance of \$357⁴⁰ for printing journals of 1830 and 31. I prefer not to make drafts upon the Treasury nor will I do so hereafter, but in this instance I thought that the circumstances of the case justified me in doing so. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. W. Whitcomb

The correctness of the accounts and having no means to pay them, I apprehended that there could be no impropriety in making the draft as Mr Bush would see you personally in regard to its payment - You will please consider the draft in the light of a requisition.

The Assembly, at its recent session, ordered copies of five different newspapers of the Territory for the use of the members - which involves an expenditure of some three hundred and fifty dollars. I am told that my predecessor paid similar accounts. I desire to be advised whether I shall defray this expense.

I enclose a joint resolution of the Assembly, or rather an attested copy thereof and wish to be informed whether the service rendered by the gentlemen therein named would be considered by the State a legitimate legislative expense and a proper one to be paid by the Secretary.

I have caused to be photostated and forwarded to you such continuous printed public matter of our Territory as was obtainable. From the fact of the limited edition of the journals of the Assembly heretofore published it is impossible now to get those of the sessions of 1850-1 and 1851-2.

Yours, Sir, with respect

Yours Obedient Serv't

Wm. L. Curry
Secretary of Oregon

Secretary's Office
Salem, February 10th 1852

Hamilton Campbell Esq.
Sir.

I received your letter dated at Portland prior to your departure for California, and while regretting that you should have been disappointed in not getting the pay for the chains which you furnished

for the use of the Assembly, I must say that it would have been your proper course to have presented your bill in order that it might have been examined and if found to be correct put in the way of settlement.

You gave orders to sundry parties upon one for certain sums, which, if I had paid them would have been contrary to the legitimate course of business inasmuch as I did not know the price that you would ultimately put upon the property. The price you proposed to charge, in our last conversation upon the matter is two thirds higher than the price at which we ordered the chairs. Such a bill I could not presume to pay as I would have my doubts about its being allowed by the Department.

In conclusion I would wish you to present your account, and if it is at such rates as would be consistent and safe for me to pay, I will do so. If not I will be obliged according to my instructions to refer the matter directly to the Department.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Geo. C. Curry
Secretary of Territory of Oregon

Secretary of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Ore., March 1, 1834

E. Hamilton Esq.
Portland,

Dear Sir,

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey, List Comptroller of the Treasury, informs me under date of the 16th December last that has requested you by letter of the same date to turn over to me the sum of \$3,637.40 - balance admitted by you in account current to be due to the United States and desires me to attend to the matter at my earliest convenience.

recurrence. I therefore take this opportunity to state that I am ready at any moment to give the necessary vouchers upon the receipt of the said moneys.

I am very Respectfully

Your Obedient Serv't

Geo. L. Curry,
Secretary of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon

Secretary's Office

Salem, March 28th 1836

E. Hamilton Esqr
Portland,

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find vouchers in duplicate for three thousand six hundred and thirty seven dollars and twenty one cents turned over to me by you as moneys of the United States.

I am respectfully

Your Obedient Serv't

Geo. L. Curry,
Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon.

Secretary's Office

Salem, March 29th 1836.

Wm. Bliskay Whittier

Comptroller of Treasury

I have the honor to inform you that E. Hamilton Esqr, late Secy of the Territory, has turned over to me as moneys of the United States the sum of three thousand six hundred and thirty seven dollars, twenty one cents - the amt named in your letter of the 4th Dec. last - for which I gave him duplicate receipts. Detail I presume is unnecessary. The business involved a small expenditure on my part for travelling expenses. Mr. Hamilton retaining some private matter from this point.

I am respectfully, Your Obedient Serv't

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office,
Salem, March 9th 1834.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
1st Comptroller of Treasury,
Sir,

Upon the receipt of your
letter of the 20th Dec. last in reference to the payment
of the expenses arising under the two acts of the Assembly
relating to Code Commissioners and the preparation and
publication of the Archives of the Territory, I brought it
before those interested and read your letter to them. I am
informed that a part of the accounts have already
gone forward and that those remaining will be
despatched, without delay.

I am sure, that you are entitled to the thanks
of those concerned for the very prompt and earnest efforts
you have made in their behalf.

I am with respect,

Your Obedient Servant

Geo. W. Curry,

Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon.
Secretary's Office,
Salem, March 28th 1834.

Hon. James Guthrie
Secy of the Treasury, U.S.
Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th ult.
directed to me at Oregon City, and the satisfaction to
state in reply that on the 12th of December last I received
drafts on the Act's Treasurer of the U.S. at San Francisco,
amounting in the aggregate to thirteen thousand three
hundred and forty dollars. I had previously made a

draft for two thousand dollars, which I have since learned was duly honored, thus making eighteen thousand three hundred and forty dollars the sum total of money advanced to me as Secretary of the Territory as you have stated.

The session of the Assembly terminated on the 2d day four days after, to wit on the 6th ult., all my accounts for disbursements - amounting to eighteen thousand six hundred and eighty six dollars, ninety cents (\$18,686.90) - with vouchers in support thereof were made up and forwarded to the First Auditor of the Treasury for adjustment. It was not in my power to have made greater despatch or expedited mine from this than this. Therefore I deem it but proper to remark that the tone of reproach characterizing your communication of the 4th ult. is altogether unwarranted and not calculated to promote those kindly feelings which should prevail between the superior and subordinate in the discharge of public duty.

The Treasury draft for one thousand six hundred and sixty dollars, has not come to hand.

I am respectfully

Your Obedient Serv't

Geo. L. Curry
Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon.
Secretary's Office.
Salem, March 29th, 1834

Robert Moore Esqr.,
Sium City.

Sir,

I have forwarded to you by this mail a letter from the Department in reference to an ~~important~~ ^{allegation} ~~claim~~ you have against the government. ~~Will you have the kindness to send me a copy of your~~

account and the evidence in support of it submitted to the Department, as I am authorized to investigate the subject and pay you whatever may be justly due?

I am respectfully,

Yr Obedient Serv't,

Geo. B. Curry

Sec'y of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office,
Valeu, March 31st 1837

Wm. Eliza Whittier,
1st Compt'r of the Treasury, Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th ult. You have placed me under obligations by the kind, ample and satisfactory statement. You have given me why my requisition of the 10th Dec. last could not be ^{fully} complied with. In answer I beg leave to enclose a copy of a letter to the Sec'y of the Treasury. The matter has pained me somewhat and I can assure you that the like cannot occur again. It grew entirely out of my desire to keep good and strong the name and faith of the Government. Without reflecting upon any one in particular, I may say that affairs had been so managed that the credit of the United States, so far as money matters are concerned, has been much below par in this Territory. An individual liability is contracted much more readily than in the name of the Government.

Please accept my acknowledgments also for the very ample directions and explanations you have furnished me in relation to the discharge of my official duties.

I am very Respectfully, Yr Obedient Serv't,

Geo. B. Curry.

Ch. B. C.

Territory of Oregon.
Secretary's Office.
Salem, April 15th 1834

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
Comptroller of Treasury

Sir, I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with instructions contained in your communication of the 16th February last, I have had a personal interview with E. Hamilton Esq. at Portland his place of residence. In answer to the demand for the balance due by him to the United States, he stated that he then was and had been engaged for sometime past in correspondence with friends in Congress for the purpose of procuring the passage of an act authorizing the Dept to recognize and allow the disbursements made by him which have been disallowed - In other words, I suppose an act for his relief - Mr. Hamilton gave me to understand that it was disbursements which had been disallowed that caused this balance against him.

I am very respectfully
Yr Obedient Servt
H. D. Curry.
Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, April 24th 1834.

Charles Mason Esq.
Commissioner of Patents.

Sir, Herewith, enclosed you have a list of the Counties in this Territory - the time of their organization - Their population in 1833 - the names

of the Chief towns and post offices therein - their seats
of Justice.

It is proper to observe that your printed cir-
cular, addressed to the Secretary of the Territory, in which
a desire is expressed for information of the above char-
acter, became misplaced or it would have met with
an earlier answer.

The set of Patent Office Reports were duly received
for which I beg to express my acknowledgments. These
books are of rare value and advantage, particu-
larly in Oregon.

I am respectfully
Your Obedient Servant,
W. H. Curry,
Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office,
Salem, April 24th, 1854.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey,
1st Compt^r of Treasury, Sir,

I have the honor to
call your attention to the account of Mr. Hamil-
ton Campbell for a lot of chairs furnished by him
for the use of the Assembly at its recent session. Not
being able to come to a settlement mutually satisfac-
tory, I beg, in accordance with my instructions, to
refer the matter for adjustment.

Mr. Campbell has written to you the enclosed let-
ter in regard to the matter. The second item of his
account as therein given should be eight not nine
rotary chairs. In the third item the figures show
a miscalculation. The aggregate of this account dif-
fers from the one presented to me as you will perceive
from the copy of the bill and voucher herewith enclosed.

I do not know that it is worth while for me to notice the letter otherwise.

I have paid Mr. Campbell three hundred and twenty four dollars - being seven dollars each for the Congress Chairs and nine dollars each for the Rotary Chairs. I did not feel warranted in paying Mr. Campbell's prices although I have no doubt the transaction has been one of loss to him as it now stands. Certain it is I should never have purchased the property with the remotest idea of the prices that are charged. The common, or ordinarily used, Chair is quite high in price here, compared with the prices for the same article in the Atlantic States; and they have been so broken and injured at the end of a session as to be generally unfit for further use. The chairs purchased from Mr. Campbell will answer for another session of the Assembly and perhaps several sessions with repairs to &c

I am respectfully
Yr Obedient Serv't
Geo. L. Murray
Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon.
Secretary's Office.
Salem, May 10th 1854.

First Auditor of the Treasury,
Sir,

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, my accounts for disbursements, as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon, since the 6th day of February 1854 to the 10th day of May 1854. Comprising an account Current - Abstract and vouchers in support thereof.

I am respectfully, Yr Obedient Serv't
Geo. L. Murray

Territory of Oregon.
Secretary's Office.
Salem, May 10th, 1834.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
Comptroller of the Treasury,
Sir.

I have the honor to inform you that I have this day forwarded to the First Auditor of the Treasury, my accounts for disbursements from the 20th day of February 1834, to the present date - comprising an Account Current - Abstract - and vouchers in support thereof.

I am very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Geo. S. Curry
Secretary of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, June 6th, 1834.

J. L. Smith Esqr.
First Auditor of Treasury U.S.
Sir,

I herewith enclose, as desired, by you in your letter of the 4th April last, a certified copy of that Act making appropriations for the expenses of the Legislative Assembly &c.

I have caused to be forwarded to you such printed public matter of the Territory as was within my command.

Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant
Geo. S. Curry
Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, June 8th, 1894

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
T^h Comptroller of Treasury U.S.

Sir,

By your favor of the 11th of April I am inclined to the impression that you have misapprehended a part of my letter to you of the 8th of February. I therefore beg to call your attention to the subjoined Extract from that letter.

The Assembly at its recent session ordered copies of five different newspapers of the Territory for the use of the members - which involves an expenditure of some three hundred and fifty dollars. I am told that my predecessor paid similar accounts. I desire to be advised whether I shall defray this expense."

The papers were furnished to the members only during the session of the Assembly, that is to say two months.

I am respectfully

Yours obedient Serv't

Geo. L. Curry,
Secy of Territory of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, June 9th 1894.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
T^h Comptroller Treasury U.S.

Sir,

I beg to call your attention to a subject to which I have previously alluded in my letters to the Department of August 18th and Dec. 15th 1893, but have failed as yet to get a response. It is whether I am not entitled to compensation for performing the duties of the Executive ~~of~~ that office during the

interval between the resignation of Gen. Lane as Governor on the 19th of May, and the appointment of Mr. Davis on the 6th Sept. 1833 to that office, and who arrived here and entered upon the discharge of his duties on the 9th day of December following.

The law organizing the Territory makes it compulsory on the Secretary to assume the duties of the Executive when that office becomes vacant. The additional duties which devolved upon me in consequence thereof caused me considerable expense in their proper and satisfactory discharge. As you are aware the Territory during a portion of the period named was unfortunately plunged in an Indian war, which was prosecuted to a successful termination. The circumstance was the occasion of additional expense to me and therefore I naturally feel that I should have compensation for the extra duties performed and the outlay incurred. From the 19th of May to the 6th of September 1833, the salary of Governor of the Territory was not paid, consequently that proportion of the appropriation for that purpose remains unexpended.

I respectfully ask you to give the matter your earliest convenient attention and you will greatly oblige me by so doing and informing me as to your conclusions in relation thereto.

I am respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Geo. L. Curry,

Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon

Secretary's Office

Salem, June 13th, 1834.

Hon. Eliza Whittier

1st Lieutenant Treasury U.S.

Wm.

You speak of Mr Hamilton having informed you that he had forwarded to me the three thousand, six hundred and thirty seven dollars and twenty one cents, the sum admitted by him to be due to the United States. I beg to explain lest a wrong impression should prevail with you in regard to the matter. Mr Hamilton forwarded to me at this place what purported to be a certificate of deposit for the sum named, signed by ^{Thayer} Brock & Ogden, merchants of Portland, and desired duplicate receipts from me for the same as money, which I declined to give until the certificate was cashed, which was not done until after it had been presented twice and failed to bring the money. The money was finally sent to me at Oregon City and the certificate taken in return, whereupon I sent Mr Hamilton duplicate receipts there for.

I am very respectfully
Your obedient serv't

Geo. L. Curry,
Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, July 1st 1854

To the President of the United States

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to enclose a copy of the proceedings and official correspondence of the Executive of the Territory of Oregon from the 1st day of January to the present date, in accordance with Sec 3 of an act to establish the Territorial Government of Oregon.

I am with great respect

Your obedient serv't
Geo. L. Curry
Secretary of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office,
Salem, July 18th 1836.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Secy of the Treasury, U.S.
Sir,

I have the honor to request that the sum of eighteen thousand, six hundred and eighty dollars of the appropriation "for the mileage, per diem and Compensation of the members and officers of the Legislative Assembly and Contingent expenses of the Territory" be forwarded with all convenient despatch in drafts of one thousand the amount of one thousand dollars, a bill, each. Subjoined is an estimate of the probable amount of each class of expenditures:

Per diem and mileage of members and Compensation of officers of the Assembly	11,600 00
Printing - incidental of the Affairs, and laws and journals	5000 00
Rent and fitting up of Legislative Halls -	500 00
Librarian's Salary	250 00
Rent of Library Room	180 00
Stationery, etc.	500 00
Fuel, Lights and Contingencies	300 00
Rent of Executive Offices	850 00

I am very respectfully,

Yours obedient Servt.
Geo. Curry,
Secy of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon,
Secretary's Office,
Salem, Oct 7th 1836.

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey,
The Comptroller Treasury, U.S.

Sir, I have the honor

to state that on the 10th day of May ~~1834~~, I forwarded
to the First Auditor of the Treasury, my accounts, with
vouchers etc., for disbursements, as Secretary of the Ter-
ritory from the 6th day of February 1834 to the date
above named. Under the same date I had
the honor to apprise you of the fact. Not having
heard in the meantime of their receipt by the De-
partment, it has occasioned me some anxiety.

I am very Respectfully

Yours Obedient Serv't.

Wm. L. Curry
Secretary of Territory of Oregon.

Territory of Oregon.

Secretary's Office,

Salem, Oct 31st 1834.

Hon. Elisha Whittier

Comptroller of Treasury U.S.

Sir,

Your favor of the 22nd
August in relation to the adjustment of my ac-
counts at the Treasury has been received. Con-
cerning the difference of \$52.72 against me made
by that adjustment I beg to say - That as to the first
item affecting vouchers (not being a discrepancy be-
tween the original printing bill of A. Bush and that
(then) presented - of - - - - - \$181.37

Mr. Bush has asked for the duplicate of the orig-
inal bill that he might investigate it. My
predecessor E. Hamilton Esqr. not having as
yet, filed his duplicate vouchers in this office,
I wrote to him desiring him to forward it for
such examination, I have not since heard
from him. In the meantime I have to as-
sure you that the discrepancy shall be ac-
counted for satisfactorily & Mr. Bush will

take pleasure in regarding the over payment
in regard to the second item affecting
Voucher No 83 - J. W. Kemith for rent of Execu-
tive ~~office~~ and Secretary's Office \$262.⁵⁰. I
would observe that \$131.25 was paid for rent
of Executive office, which, when the accounting
vacancy in the Executive office shall have
been filled, and the contingent fund of the
Territory advanced, will undoubtedly be re-
funded out of that appropriation.

Concerning the third item affecting voucher
No 70 error in addition - A Dash in printing
~~to~~^{of} I have only to state that this claim
has been refunded by Mr. Bush.

I am very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant

H. S. Loom
 Secretary of Oregon

Territory of Oregon

Secretary's Office

Salem Feb 6th 1855

The President of the United States

Sir

In obedience to instructions from the Legislative Assembly of this Territory I have the Honor to transmit herewith a copy of a Series of Resolutions adopted by that Body at the last regular Session

Very Respectfully
Samuel A. Smith Sec^y
B. F. Harding
Sec^y of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Corvallis May 4th 1855

Sir

Herewith I transmit Copies of my official Oath as Sec^y of the Territory of Oregon One of which was made and subscribed on the 27th day of January 1855 and the other on the 2^d day of May 1855. That you may adjust my Salary account for services as Sec^y of Oregon

As the office was vacant at the time of my appointment I claim that I am under the law entitled to receive the Salary of the Office from and after the date of appointment

Very Respectfully
Samuel A. Smith
B. F. Harding
Sec^y of Oregon

J. L. Smith
Per Auditor of the Treasury U.S.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's office
Corvallis May 7th 1855

Sir

I have this day forwarded to First Auditor of the Treasury Copy of my official Oath as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon that he may be able to adjust my Salary Act.

The Office being vacant at the time of my Appointment, I submit: whether I am not entitled to receive the Salary of the Office from the date of my Appointment?

For the Amount that may be found due to me as Salary as Secretary. I enclose — that draft on the Assistant Treasury at New York may be transmitted to me by mail at as early a day as Convenience will permit

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
W H Haining
Secy of Oregon

Hon Charles Whittier
Pt Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D C

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's office
Corvallis, May 7th 1855

Sir

Herewith I transmit for Settlement — accounts for Disbursements made by myself as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon for Legislative and Contingent — expenses of the Territory from the 27th day of January 1855 to the 12th day of May 1855 which you will please receive
I am Very Respectfully

J. L. Smith
Pr Auditor of Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Yours most truly
J. L. Smith
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Corvallis May 7th 1855

Sir

I have this day transmitted to the First Auditor of the Treasury for Settlement my accounts for disbursements as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon, for Legislation and Contingent Expenses of the Territory, from 27th of January to 1st day of May 1855 - amounting in the aggregate to \$12387.10

I think it will not be improper to observe in this place that on the 5th of July I wrote you and made a full statement in regard to my position: that I was acting as Secy of this Territory without having rec^d official information that I had been appointed - Also that I had rec^d of Gov Geo L. Curry late Secy of the Territory funds which he had on hand, for the payment of Legislative Expenses of the Territory, and disbursed so much as was necessary for payment of Members officers &c of the Assembly. And requested that proper form of Bond be forwarded at the earliest convenience that I might execute and return it to the department - I have not yet rec^d or heard - But on the 2^d of this month I rec^d a communication dated 5th March 1855, with no bond or instructions

accompanying it = I hope and believe that the
form of Bond has been forwarded before this
time and that I shall receive it by next
mail =

I rec^d from Gov Curry the sum of
\$13688.48 = The accounts and vouchers musti-
cated above as forwarded, are for the dis-
bursement of that fund. Excepting a balance
of \$351.33 which now remains in my
hands.

Altho this disbursing may have
been informal I hope it may be approved
of and adjusted without loss or trouble
to Gov Curry or myself in as much as
it has been in good faith with a view to
the interest of the Government and the con-
venience of the people of this Territory

I am Sir Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant

B. J. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Hon. Eliza Whittsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D. C.

Oregon Territory
Secretary's Office
Corvallis, May 26th 1855

Sir

The last Session of the Legislative Assem-
-bly of this Territory by an act which
took effect on the 1st day of March
last removed the seat of Govt of the
Territory from Salem to this place
(Corvallis) a point some thirty five
miles south of Salem
At Salem the State House was so

for example that the Assembly occupied
it at the last Session. And the United
States were saved the expense of Room
rent for that purpose. for that Session
and had the Seat of Government been
removed would have been saved similar
expense for future Sessions

But to accommodate the Assembly at
the new location, Rooms will need to be
rented and the Territorial Library, Book Cases
desks &c belonging to the office and used by
the Assembly. Removed from Salem to Cornwallis
at an expense which it is impossible for
me to estimate with any claim of accuracy
at this time, ~~but~~ which will probably be near
one thousand dollars =

It is expected by the people that this service will be
performed by me and the expense paid by the
United States =

I am anxious to act in accordance with the
wishes of the people in this as in all other matters
but have doubts whether such expense will be
considered as properly chargeable to the fund app-
ropriated by Congress from the Treasury of the
United States to defray the expenses of the Legis-
lative Assembly &c = Therefore I hope you may
be pleased to afford me instructions upon the
subject at your earliest convenience

Very Respectfully
Yours Obedient Servant
B. F. Harding
Secy of Ariz

Hon. Blake Whittier
Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

A copy of the act referred to is herewith
transmitted =

Yours &c
B. F. Harding, Secy. Ariz.

Territory of Oregon

Secretary's Office

Covallis, May 26th 1854

Samuel Elmer Whitting
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D. C.
Sir

I beg leave to inform you that the Legislative Assembly of this Territory at the last regular Session by joint Resolution allowed to each of the Officers and Clerks of that body, Six Newspapers during the time of the Session. Each Member to select such papers as he should desire. And there being Six different weekly Newspapers published in the Territory, some of the Members under that resolution, subscribed for and rec^d one copy of each; while others subscribed for and rec^d Six copies of but one for the time of the Session, at an expense of about \$350.00.

For these papers the publishers have presented Bills, and as your instructions to my predecessor of date 26th July 1854, upon same subject seem to be of a special nature, and leave doubts as to the propriety of making any other payment for papers so furnished than the one therein particularly mentioned I have deferred their payment, that I may lay the matter before you for further instructions, which I hope you will be pleased to give.

I remain your

Obedt Servt.

A. H. Welling
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon

Secretary's Office
Corvallis. May 26th 1855

Hon. Eliza Whittier
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D C
Sir

I have the honor to
acknowledge the rec^d of your letter dated
April 4th 1855. Accompanied by form of
Bond. Which was executed and approved
by the Governor, and will be by him transmit-
ted to your office

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B F Manning
Sec of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Corvallis. June 30th 1855

Hon. James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to
request that the sum of nineteen thousand
Six hundred and five dollars (\$19,605.⁰⁰/₁₀₀) of
the appropriation "for Compensation and Mi-
nages of Members of the Legislative Assembly
Officers and Clerks, and Contingent Expenses
of the Assembly" of the Territory, be forwarded
in five All Convenience dispatches in drafts
of One thousand dollars each —
Subjoined is an estimate of the probable
amount of each class of expenditures —

Proclaim & mileage of members & compensation of officers of the Assembly	\$ 1160 00
Printing circulated of the Session and Laws and Journals	5000 00
Rent & fitting up of Legislative Hall	300 00
Librarian's Salary	500 00
Rent of Room for Library	180 00
Stationery &c -	500 00
Fuel lights and contingencies	400 00
Rent of Secretary's office	175 00
For purchase of Iron Safe for Office	250 00
	<u>\$ 19605 00</u>

I am Very Respectfully
 Your Obedient
 B. F. Harding
 Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
 Secretary's office
 Corvallis June 30th 1855

Hon. Cassius Whitelsey
 First Comptroller of the Treasury
 Washington D C

Sir

I have this day by letter requested the Hon Secretary of the Treasury to forward me the sum of nineteen thousand six hundred and five dollars (\$19605.⁰⁰/₁₀₀) in drafts of one thousand dollars each to defray the expenses of the Legislative Assembly &c

I have included in the estimate of expenses an item of five hundred dollars for the salary of Librarian. instead of two hundred and fifty dollars the amount of said salary - previous years - This is done because the Assembly at last Session, of 1854-55 increased said salary ~~for~~ the sum of \$500.00 per year

I have made no payment of this increased Salary as yet, and prefer not doing so without instructions in regard thereto, which I hope you will be pleased to furnish me at your next ~~next~~ Conference =

I deem it proper to state here that I consider the sum of \$500.00 no more than a reasonable Compensation for the yearly Service required of the Librarian. And hope I may be allowed to pay him that sum

In the estimate is also included an item of \$750.00 for purchase of Iron Safe for preservation of Books papers &c belonging to the Office - This is highly necessary as in case of fire or other calamity I have not the means of keeping in the Office securely even the most valuable Books, &c &c &c and the Government is at all times in danger of suffering irreparable loss =

I rec^d from my predecessor in Office an old iron Safe, which I understand had been purchased and sent to the Territory by the former Secretary Mr Hamilton Esq - But it has so much rusted and changed that many of the Bolts which held it together can be easily picked out with the naked fingers, and much of the sand or other material with which it was filled between the outside and inside Cases leaked out. And it is now incapable of affording protection against fire or robbery, besides it is believed by those professing to have knowledge, not to possess sufficient strength to bear removal and was left at Salt Lake -

I find in the instructions to ^{my} predecessor permission to make such purchase. but in as much as the old one was deemed sufficient for the

time being none was made by him - And I
having ~~at least~~ ample time before funds
shall arrive, lay the matter before you for
consideration and instruction direct

I put the cost at \$750.00 - But it may be
something more or less for such a large and
elaborate one as is needed for this office

I remain Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Salem July 5th 1855

Hon Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury

Sir

Your favour of
the 17th April last was rec^d by mail which
arrived at this place on 3^d inst
I had on 7th May ult transmitted copy
of my Oath as Secretary -

As United States Atty for District of Oregon
I continued to perform service until 12th day
of December 1854. On which day my suc-
cessor Wm D Farnar Esq took the Oath and
assumed the duties of the office
I transmit by this mail to the Auditor of
the Treasury Accts for my services as District
Atty. from 1st July 1854 to 12th Dec 1854

Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, Sept 22nd 1855

Hon Escha Whittier
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Sir

I had the honor to receive on the 19th inst. Your Communication dated July 30th 1855 and its Enclosures, giving information on the Subject of public printing. And also that of 31st same month containing instruction in regard to paying for News Papers received by the Members of the Assembly at regular Session of 1854-55-

In regard to the Account of Mr Bush Esq. Territorial Printer for printing 1000 Copies of the Statutes of Oregon Session 1853-54 mentioned in yours of 30th July I beg leave to submit the following Statement which perhaps I ought to have made at an earlier day - Five hundred Copies only of the 1000 Copies of said Statutes have been delivered to the Secretary of this Territory -

The other 500, were shipped from New York to San Francisco, and there placed upon the Steamer Sautterner, which as you have already been informed was wrecked in January last, and wholly lost, together with a large amount of printing Machinery and Materials belonging to Mr Bush. The Legislative Assembly being in Session at the time the News of the wreck was received, and it being supposed that the Books were lost or greatly ~~impaired~~ ^{damaged}. An Act was passed (a printed Copy of which is herewith enclosed) releasing Mr Bush from his obligation

To deliver 500 Copies more in addition
to those delivered: Provided he receive
pay for only 500 Copies
And also requiring him to cause to be printed
500 Copies of the Laws of a General Nature
passed at the Sessions of 1853-54 And 1854-
55 and have the same bound, in one
Volume similar to that containing Laws
of 1853-54

In consequence of all which Mr Bush
proposed to reduce his Original Account
of \$5923. ~~42~~ as follows. And receive
pay for only the 500 Copies delivered
Amount of Original Account \$5923.42

Deduct 95 taken prep work

\$2.50 per line \$237.50

25 Pages per page \$8.00 per Page 200.00

Binding 500 Copies \$1.00 Each 500.00 937.50

Thus reducing the Original Account to \$4985.92

Of which Amount he had received

of my predecessor 2791.56

Leaving due to him \$2194.36

According to his Statement of the Account
Then on the 10th of March last he made
a demand of money in printing.

And after Confering with Governor Cary,
I paid to him \$1000, and took receipts -

(Receipts) to apply on the account above
mentioned, believing that that much was
justly due to him on that account beyond
question. Indeed I did not doubt but
the whole amount claimed was justly
due leaving any errors there might be in
computation. And I hope and believe
it may be so found after Governor Cary
and Mr Bush shall be heard. But if it
shall not be, I have not the slightest

doubt but Mr Bush will take pleasure in
rectifying any wrong that may be in this
respect

Said \$1000. is charged in my account trans-
mitted on 7th of May last as per Voucher
No 12 Abstract C

I Remain Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

P.S. At an early day I will transmit Copies
of the printing done for last Session

B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretarys Office
Salmon Sept 29th 1855

Hon. Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D C

Your letter of 18th
August 1855, accompanied by Treasury Statute
out of difference existing upon the Treasury
adjustment of my accounts as Secretary of
Oregon, for disbursements out of the Legislat-
ive fund from the 27th day of January 1855
to the 1st day of May 1855 both days inclusive
and the Treasury Explanation thereof is this
day received. And by your permission I will
with pleasure proceed to give my explain-
ation of, and my reasons for making
the payments which are suspended
and disallowed, and must necessarily
be somewhat lengthy. And

First- Voucher No 35 Abstract "C" Victor
Froitt Chief Clerk, for copying same

and appendix of House for the Session
of 1854-55—

Of which it is said, "It must be well
known that payments for services of this
character have been suspended heretofore
in the accounts of previous Secretaries. Was this
a proper payment under such circumstances?

Suspended and may be finally disallowed—
Second—Voucher No 15, Abstract "B", B Curry
Chief Clerk, for Copying Journals and Appen-
dix of the Council, of same Session—
Suspended and may be finally disallowed—
See Remarks next above—

As these two items are precisely similar in their
character I ask that the following may be consid-
-ered as my explanation of & reasons for paying each,
and answer to the remarks— But before proceed-
-ing permit me to say that in every instance before
making a payment I have first carefully examined &
considered whether there was clearly authority in
Statute or in instructions from the Department to
the Secretary of this Territory, for making it— And in
no case have I made, or will I make a payment
without firmly believing that I have such auth-
-ority— But when such authority existed I have
had no doubt from the time I assumed the duties
of the office that the payments made under it were
proper— And in the last clause of your letter to me, of
Nov 7th 1854 (which however was not received until
after the payments in question were made) you say
I beg leave to refer you to letters of instruction that
have been sent from this office to your predecessor

When the first of the two accounts above
mentioned was presented I looked among the letters
of instruction to my predecessor, and found one
dated Nov 9th 1853, addressed by you to "George
L Curry Esq Secretary of the Territory of Oregon"

Which is so full and explicit upon this question that I take the liberty of Copying the Body of it entire. It is as follows

"Your letter of the 13th of September last has been received enclosing the following accounts for my approval, W Chapman for fuel and for hauling the same for the use of the Legislative Assembly. At the Session of 1851 and 1852 - \$425.00

"Richard J White for twenty days Service Copying the Laws of the Session of 1852-53 for publication by the printer at \$5.00 per day \$100.00, and for 30 days extra Service in Copying the Journals of the House for the printer at \$5.00 per day \$150. Making \$250.00 And Charles A Liny for the same Service \$250.

"The account of W Chapman for fuel &c can be paid if Mr Hamilton your predecessor has not already paid it. You had better confer with him before you pay the account.

"The accounts of Richard J White and Charles A Liny for Services in Copying the Laws and Journals for the Session of 1852-53 can be paid only in part - The Law of August 29th 1842 makes it the duty of the Secretary to prepare the acts passed by the Legislative Council for publication, and to furnish a copy thereof to the printer of the Territory within two days &c - The act does not make it the duty of the Secretary to perform such Service in relation to the Journals of the two Houses since these services should be paid for, but not at the rates as charged in their accounts at \$5. per day

"The Organic act of the Territory Section 11 provides that all officers of the Territory shall receive a compensation at the rate of \$3. per day except the Chief Clerk of

"Each House whose Compensation is fixed at
"\$5 per day during the Session
"You can pay them for 30 days Service at \$3.00
"per day for the Copying of the Journals for the
"Territorial printer - but nothing can be all
"owed them for the Copying the Laws -
"In ~~adjustment~~ adjustment of the accounts of Mr
"Hamilton items of this kind were invariably
"disallowed as you will see by reference to
"the Copy of disallowed items in Hamilton's acc
"ounts sent you from this office
"The accounts of Chapman White & Lerry are
"herewith returned"

After reading and considering this letter of instruc-
-tion, to be the more certain, I referred to the records
and found that my predecessor had made paym-
-ents for precisely similar Service at the two privi-
-ous Sessions as follows

To John Mc Craekin Session 1853-54 as per
Voucher No 73. Abstract B. (The Currys account)
30 days \$90.00

To S B Garrett as per Voucher No 74 Abstract
B. Same Session (Same account) \$90.00

To C A Lury Session 1852-53 as per Voucher
No 79. Same Abstract & Same account

30 days \$90.00 = The four of which Vouch-
-ers I followed in making mine =

I also inquired of Governor Curry whether those
-items had been suspended or disallowed and
was informed, that they had not, but were app-
-roved and adjusted = I therefore paid the acc-
-ounts. Considering not only that I was doing
so under ^{the authority of} instructions but that it was right
-legal and proper to do = And I hope under these
-self
Circumstances it may be so considered by your

Third Voucher No 5 Abstract C" payment

to L. S. Davison for Sawing ^{34 1/2} Cords of ^{Red} Wood \$100.00
"Which is claimed Extravagant even for Oregon"
And only \$69. allowed Making a difference
of \$31. = Thus Service was ~~performed~~ before I
Came into Office, but is not different for that
reason. As to the price \$3. per Cord, was the price
then being paid for Sawing the same Kind of Wood,
to the same and other individuals, by the Citizens
of Salem, and is still the price being paid to &
by them; And such Service could not then
and cannot now be obtained for a less price
than \$100. for 34 1/2 Cords or \$3 per Cord of Kind
of Wood it being Oak Maple and Ash.

And I find on referring to the Record that my
predecessor paid to the same individual for
Sawing 24 Cords of Same Kind of Wood for
use of Assembly at Salem of 1853-54 the sum
of \$75. As per ~~Abstract~~ Abstract No 12 Abstract 3
of his account, and I am not aware that any
Change in the price of labor has taken place since
that time. Nor can I find that this last mentioned
payment has been suspended or disallowed.

I therefore hope and expect as a matter of right
and justice that this disallowance of this item
may be reconsidered and the whole payment
allowed.

Fourth Voucher No 7 Abs 6 for payment
of \$24. freight on 5 Boxes Books. Suspended
for ~~Examination~~ = The Books were forwarded
by the State Department at Washington, for
the Territorial Library, and consisted mes-
sages of printed Congressional matter.

Fifth Voucher No 8 Abs 6 for Stationery
purchased of Moore & McDaniel. Charge
of \$5.50 for six pocket knives disallowed
for the reason that just the 1st of knives

of knives were paid for to S J Mc Cormick that
there were members & officers of the Assembly
These and the bill (Voucher No 10 Abs C")
of S J Mc Cormick were purchased by my pre-
-decessor before I came into office as the Vouch-
-er will show. And when the accounts were
presented, after being informed by Governor Curry
that the articles charged for were obtained by
him for the use of the Assembly, I paid them

And I presume he considered the articles nec-
-essary for the use of the Assembly and that
they were so disposed of. Is it more reason-
-able to restrict the purchase of pen knives
to the number there are of members officers
&c of the Assembly than to limit the pur-
-chase of pen holders to that number?

It seems to me not. In the purchase and
distribution of these articles some may be
accidentally lost, or so defected as not to
answer the purpose for which they were
obtained. And in this instance I think
such should be the presumption, and
that justice requires this disallowance
to be reconsidered and the payment allow-
-ed. I had not been considered by my-
-self, and I think not by predecessor that
that Government should furnish knives
to executive officers

Sixth Voucher No 10, Abs C. Charge B8
for 4 doz letter stamps. They were I presume
what would be considered wafer stamps,
at least they were such stamps as are
used for stamping the wafer when used
for sealing letters. The price may be high
when compared ^{with} price in the States (Atlantic)
but I presume you are aware of the great
difference between prices on this coast &

and on the Atlantic ~~Coast~~ of labour and ma-
-terials = I have no doubt but the stamps were
obtained at the lowest market price in this
country

Twentieth Voucher No 12 abt 'C' advanced of
\$1000 to A Bush Esq 10th March 1855 = This
Voucher I ought to have made more explicit
as on referring to it, I think it does not plainly
show on what account the money was to be
applied = I was intended to apply on the
account for printing the Statutes of Oregon
in the Baunel Voucher, Sepian 1853-54.
For a more full explanation of this matter I
beg leave to refer you to letter written to
you by me on 22nd inst and will be mailed
on same day with this -

I have endeavoured to make my
reasons for making the payments herein referred
to appear as plain as possible and if I have
trapped long upon your time and patience
- even I hope I may be pardoned. Having
said no more than I claimed necessary

I am very Respectfully
Yours Most Sincerely
B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon

Secretarys Office

Salem, Oct 12th 1853

John P. Shasta Whittsey

First Comptroller of the Treasury

Sir

I beg leave to submit for your consideration the accompanying account of Robert Moon for printing Laws of Oregon of Session 1849-50. in the Oregon Spectator, a news paper published by him, in 1850. Attached to the account are letters and ~~statements~~ ^{statements} containing evidence in support of it -

Three several letters and statements contain in connection with a letter written to you by my predecessor George S. Curry Esq on the 15th of September 1853. Contain all the information I have upon this subject -

This ~~claim~~ ^{claim} is one which was once before submitted to, and considered by you, and my predecessor instructed to pay - which instruction was subsequently recalled and the whole matter left to Mr. Curry for investigation and payment of such ~~amount~~ ^{amount} as he should find to be due - But as no evidence was presented to Mr. Curry in support of the account it remained unsettled, and was presented to me for adjustment and payment in the month of August last

I declined making any payment, under the belief that the matter was left to the investigation of Mr. Curry because of his personal knowledge of the circumstances from which the claim originated, and gives to his successor in office no authority to investigate the matter and pay to Mr. Moon such amount as he shall find to be due him. Especially

as such claims of this nature are not
considered as generally allowable -
Yet I am led to the belief, by the evidence con-
tained in the statements & attached to the
Account, that the Service rendered by Mr
Moon and charged for in the Account was
valuable. And that he should be paid
so much as the Service was worth -
Therefore I cheerfully comply with his
request, by transmitting the papers for
your consideration and such instruction
as you may be pleased to give

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B. J. Hanning
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office Salem
Salem October 13th 1855

Hon. Elsha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury

Sir

By this mail I send
you ~~one~~ Volume containing the Statistics of
this Territory enacted at the Session of 1853-54
& also those of a general nature enacted at Session
of 1854-55 =

I have already informed you by letter sent
by last mail, that only 500 Copies of the 1000
Copies ordered of Statistics of 1853-54 have been
delivered. And of the reason why the other
500 were not delivered. And also of the
action of the Assembly in consequence thereof
The Bush Bay Territorial Printer has

has procured the printing binding &c of 500 Copies of this Volume I now send you in the City of New York under the Act of the Legislative Assembly, a Copy of which I enclosed in my letter above mentioned. And which you will find printed on pages 469-70 of the Volume now forwarded, Entitled "an Act Supplemental to an Act to provide for the Public printing And distribution of the Laws and Journals" Passed January 30th 1855 =

I also transmit by this mail a Copy of House Journal - Session 1854-55. And Copy of Council Journal same Session

And 4 Pamphlets of which 1000 Copies of each were printed under an Act of last Assembly Entitled "An Act to provide for the printing and distribution of certain Laws in Pamphlet form" which you will find on Page 23 of Special Laws Appended to House Journal of 1854-55

I would most respectfully request that you call this ~~matter~~ matter to be measured and Estimated at the Earliest Convenience, and give me early instruction in regard to paying Mr Bush for the work

In making the request for instructions perhaps it is due to the Department and also to Mr Bush. that I state so far as I know the Circumstances under which the work was done, & my own views in regard to the matter

The work on Journals and Pamphlets was executed in this Territory

The Statutes were sent by Mr Bush to New York. There being no facilities in this Territory doing the kind of binding required for them

But the fact that the work was done in New York I think should not keep the Account to be paid him for the work

The cost of transportation to and from New York is great, besides which the transportation is attended with much charge of loss. Then add to all that the cost of his going to New York or employing an agent there to superintend the work and I think it will be quite apparent that he is entitled to no less than he would have been had he done the work in Oregon -

It would be desirable to the people of the Territory to have this work done here if it could be. But I do not see that it can make any difference with the General Government whether it is done in this Territory or in New York.

Of the price which should be allowed for printing &c done here I am not qualified to judge being wholly unacquainted with that kind of business. But as you are aware there is a great difference between the price of labour and materials in the Atlantic States and on this Coast -

The last Assembly. Several members of which were well acquainted with the business of printing considered the prices fixed by the Session previous quite low enough and therefore made no change in the law in that respect -

There may be a question as to whether Mr Bush shall be allowed for payments he has made for preparing Head and Marginal notes and indeed on the ground that the Secretary of the Territory should have prepared them. You will observe that the Act of the Assembly to provide for the public printing &c. requires the Territorial Printer to prepare them. You will also observe that the Marginal notes of the Volume of 1854 as well as that of the present year are such as none but a Lawyer who has the assistance and advantage of an extensive Library could prepare

And also that they add very much to the value of the volume - I think therefore this item ought if possible to be allowed

Appended to the Council Journal you will find the opinions and decisions of the Supreme Court of the Territory. These were printed in Journal of 1853-54 under Authority of a Joint Resolution of the Assembly which you will find on page 151. of House Journal of that Session - And in Journal of 1854-55 under Authority of 3^d Section of the act first above referred to - They are very beneficial to the people of the Territory when thus printed. And I hope they may be paid for And it occurs to me that the payment may be allowed as they are laws of the Territory, at least the points decided become law and the opinion is necessary to ~~show~~ ^{explain} the reason And show the application of them

I remain Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
J. F. Manning
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretarys Office
Salem. Nov 15th 1855

Hon J B Smith

First Auditor of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D C

Sir
Dear Sir

I forward accounts &c for disbursements as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon from May 1st 1854 to Nov 15th 1855. Which Please receive

Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
J. F. Manning

Territory of Oregon

Secretary's Office
Salem November 15th 1855

Hon. Asha Whittlesy
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Sir

By this mail I forward to 1st Auditor Vouchers Accounts &c for disbursements as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon from May 1st 1855 to Nov 15th 1855.

In the Account is included one item (Voucher No 13 Abstract "D") of \$3856.26 paid A Bush Esq for doing incidental printing for Session of Assembly 1854-55. The work is charged for at rates allowed previous years. And not knowing any reason why the rates should be reduced for the printing of last Session. I allowed and paid the full account. But I think that for the printing hereafter there ought to be some reduction in prices. As the scarcity of money will and probably has already to some extent reduced the prices of labour but &c.

The estimate of this work was made as you will observe. under and in accordance with the provisions of the Act of the Territorial Legislature And I have no doubt but it is correct. Mr Cowen the Guntherman who measured and estimated it and made up and verified the account I am personally acquainted with and have full confidence in his skill and integrity.

It has not hitherto been considered necessary to preserve Copies of the incidental printing and none were kept of that done for last Session. Consequently I could not forward Copies to you. with the Pamphlets Statutes &c - However the labour master

passed under the inspection of my predecessor
and myself and the manner in which it
was executed was satisfactory.

I have requested Mr Bush to preserve copies
of all printing he shall do hereafter for the
Government, to be forwarded to the Department
if desired for measurement.

I hope I may be early informed of the
decision of the Department upon the payment
of \$1000, to Mr Bush for printing Statutes
of 1853-54 in Bound Volume. As per Voucher
No 12 Abstract "C" of 1st May ~~last~~

I remain Very Respectfully
Yours about Servant
B F Harney
Act of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem Dec 17th 1855

Hon Oliver Hittsley
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D. C.
Sir

Your favor
of 15th October 1855 with its enclosures was
received on 15th inst. - The Circular affords
to me valuable information as to my
duties in regard to the public printing
upon which subject I have hitherto
had no very certain guide.
I take occasion to say here that Yours
of Oct 16th accompanied by copy of
letter to A Bush Esq was rec^d on 15th
inst. The matters therein submitted for
my determination will be addressed
to at an early day =

The Legislative Assembly of the Territory
are now in Session at this place. The
Act Removing the Seat of Govt from
Salem to Corvallis having been repealed
Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B. L. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem December 31st 1855

Hon. Eliza Whittier
1st Comptroller of Treasury
Washington D. C.
Sir

I have to inform
You that at One and half O'clock yesterday morn-
-ing (30th inst) the Capital Building at this place was
discovered to be on fire. And in less than three
hours after it was burned to the ground. The fire
had progressed so far at the time of its discov-
-ery, and spread through the building so rapidly
that all the furniture used by the Assembly, the
Territorial Library, which had just been rem-
-oved to the building, Stationery, fuel lights
&c &c, and the journals papers &c of the present
Session were wholly consumed.

Not one article was saved.

The Cause of the fire is not known. But it
appears that it started in a part of the
building unfinished and unoccupied,
where fire was never known to be.

An inquiry will I doubt not be instituted
by the Assembly, as to the Cause of the fire
the present Session. If I can well Commem

-icate the result to you at the earliest practicable -
moment - If no such inquiry shall be instituted
I will give you such facts as I can gather at an
early day -

The Session as I informed you in my letter
of 17th inst is being held at this place, and it
was in the Capitol Building - The time limit
-ed by law for the Session is but half expired;
And very much important business still rem-
-ains to be acted upon -

In as much as there is no time for commu-
-nicating with ~~your Department~~ ^{and receive}
-ing information from your Department as
to my duty under these extraordinary circum-
-stances, I believe it proper for me to proceed
without delay to procure Rooms, furniture
stationery, lights, fuel, &c for the accommodation
of the Assembly that they may proceed with
business with as little delay as possible -
And in doing so I shall practice the most
rigid economy -

While I deeply regret the necessity which
-the Compels me to such proceeding, I feel
confident that your Department in view
of the calamity, and the great and obvi-
-ous embarrassments under which the
Legislature would be placed, and also
the great injury which would result
to the people of the Territory were I to
pursue a different course, will ratify
and approve of such action in this
respect -

Hoping you may be pleased to indicate
to me the views of the Department upon this
subject at your earliest convenience.

I remain Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
W. H. Morrison

Territory of Oregon
Secretary Office
Salem January 9th 1854

Hon Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of Treasury
Washington D. C.

Sir

Since writing to you
on 31st of Dec I have fitted up Rooms for the
Assembly, procured Stationery, furniture & as the
Session is being Continued after a delay of only one
day.

I have procured Desks for the use of Members and
Officers which will answer for future Sessions.
They are double. One Desk answering for two Mem-
bers = Cost \$15.00 Each

The Chairs procured are of the Common Windsor
And in my opinion are not such as should be
best ^{over} better, could not be had on so short notice =
I hope I may be allowed before the meeting of
the next Assembly, to dispose of so many of them
as will not be needed. And purchase the Arm &
Rotary Chair of the same kind purchased by
my predecessor in Summer of 1853, and burned
with the State House =

The Arm and Rotary Chair are much more con-
venient and more durable than the Common Win-
dson, and can be obtained at a low price = I believe
it will cost up to seat the Assembly in such
Chairs for 3 or 5 years to come, than in the
kind now used =

For the Rooms now occupied I have made
no agreement with the proprietor I have hesitated
in regard to price if rent; Nor did I have his
consent to occupy them before taking possession
for the reason that I could not see him without
traveling some ten miles out of Town, to do

which I did not consider it necessary to take time, believing that he would not object to what I desired to do in that respect.

To day however I have seen and conversed with Col Asmuth in regard to the Rooms and find as I had reason to expect, that he is satisfied with what I have done, and asks only a reasonable rent for the Rooms during the time they shall be occupied.

The Rooms are well adapted to the purposes of the Assembly, and as Rooms will be needed for next Session I requested Col Asmuth to make me a proposition for the rent of the Rooms for a year or years to come. Accordingly he proposed to put the Rooms in good repair and take \$600.00 per year for the rent.

In the year 1854 and a part of 1855 the same Rooms were rented for \$650. per year. The whole of the Rooms would not be needed at any other time than during the Session. But it is contended, and I think it is true, that the same Rooms cannot be rented for the balance of year and would be worth but little or nothing to the proprietor. One Room would be needed for the whole year for storing furniture &c.

From the inquiry I have made I do not think I shall get other Rooms for less price than \$600. which will answer as well. And on the whole I do not think the sum of \$600. unreasonable for the rent of the Rooms. Yet I shall make no arrangement in regard to this or other matters above mentioned until I shall receive instructions, which I hope you will be pleased to communicate at your earliest convenience.

I remain Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B L Hanning
Secy of the Convention

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem. January 19th 1856

Hon. Elihu Whillsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Sir

Because of the delay
I uniformly experience in receiving my salary by
Draft, I would request that I may be permitted
to draw drafts on my account as Secretary in
same manner as the Judges and Governors of the
Territory have done -

Hencefore I have received Drafts as Act Treas-
-urer at New York, from six to eight weeks after
the end of the several Quarters - This delay I
shall be compelled to suffer unless this re-
-quest be granted - For it takes the Drafts the above
stated time to reach me when issued and mailed
on the last day of the Quarter as it has been
hencefore -

Believing there will be no objection at the
Department to my pursuing the course above
indicated, I will draw my draft at the end
of the present Quarter. And if it cannot be paid
I hope you will so inform me as early as
convenient after the reception of this, so that I
may not suffer loss by protest.

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt

B. T. Harding
Sec^y of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary of Oregon
Salem January 19th 1856

Hon Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Sir

I have to inform
You that at the time of my entrance into this
office my predecessor had not a full set of
U.S. Statutes to turn over, and informed me
that he had not received a full set -

The only full set I have ever had access to
belonged to the Territorial Library and were burned
with it -

Governor Curry requests me to say that the
same remarks are true of the Executive Office.
It is requested that a full set of the Statutes
may be forwarded to each of our Offices
if it can properly be done

Perhaps it may not be proper that this
request should be made of you - But in
as much as I have little or no correspond-
-ence with any other Officer of the Depart-
-ments at Washington, I hope you will
pardon the impropriety if there be any
and direct this communication to its
proper place

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, January 26th
1856

The President

Sir

As required by the 3^d Section of
An Act to Establish the Territorial Government
of Oregon, Approved, August 14th 1848, I herewith
transmit a copy of the ^{Official} Correspondence of
the Executive of the Territory of Oregon from
1st July 1855 to 1st January 1856

I am very respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B. F. Harsening
Act of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem January 26th 1856

The President

Sir

As required by the 3^d Section
of An Act to Establish the Territorial Government
of Oregon, Approved August 14th 1848, I have
hereby transmit a Copy of the Acts and
proceedings of the Governor of the Territory
of Oregon from July 1st 1855 to January 1st
1856

I am very respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B. F. Harsening
Act of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem February 25th 1856

Hon Alisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington, D.C.

Sir

By this mail
I forward copy of all the incidental print-
ing of the Session of the Assembly 1855-56
for measurement and estimation. The
number of Copies of each Bill, Report, &c
will be found noted in the margin or head,
if not printed on the title page. The law
of this Territory in regard to printing &c was
so amended at the last Session, as to make
the prices correspond with the prices
stated in your letter of 16th October 1855.
I have not yet determined the several
prices submitted by yours of above
date for my investigation, but will
endeavour to do so, and transmit
the same by next mail.

I herewith enclose the report of the Joint
Committee of the two Houses of the Assem-
bly upon the burning of the State House

I am very respectfully
Your obedient servant

B. Harding
Sec^y of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem Feb 25th 1856

J B Smith Esq
First Auditor of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Sir

Herewith I transmit Accounts, Vouchers, Abstracts &c for disbursements as Secretary of the Oregon for Legislative and Contingent Expenses, from November 15th 1855 to Feb'y 25th 1856 which you will please receive

Very Respectfully

Yours Obedt Servt
B H Marsden
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem. Feb'y 26th 1856

Sam Eliza Whittesey
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Sir

By this mail I forward to 1st Auditor. Accounts for disbursements from 15th November 1855 to present date, including per diem and mileage of Members and Officers of the Assembly, Contingent Expenses &c. I informed you by letter of 17th Dec 1855 that the Assembly was in session at this place. It first commenced at Corvallis and Oregon. The first business introduced was a bill to repeat the

the act of the previous Session locating
the Seat of Govt of the Territory there and
re establishing it at this place, which pass-
ed on the 13th of December and the Legis-
lature Adjourned to meet here on the 15th
of Same month and continue the Session
under the same Organization effected
there. They so met and remained in
Session at this place until 31st day of
January inclusive) and claimed that
the Session was held at Salem and the
Members entitled to pay for sixty days
service (time of the Session) and mileage
to and from this place. Certificates
were made by the presiding Officers and
Clerks in the usual form ~~in the usual~~
~~form~~ in accordance with such claim.

On a careful Examination of the instruc-
tions from your Office of July 25th 1853, I
was of opinion that neither the ~~spirit~~
or letter of them would be violated by
the payment of the amounts shown to
be due the Members by the certificates
in as much as the Session was not "held ~~there~~
anywhere other than at Salem" and no money
would be paid other than ~~would~~ have
have been paid had the act to relocate
the Seat of Government at Corvallis now
been passed & I so paid and made up
my accounts in the same manner as though
the whole Session had been held at Salem.

I have stated all these circumstances
for your information, not doubting but
these payments will readily meet your
approval.

I am Very Respectfully
Yours obed^t Serv^t
J. H. [Signature]

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem March 17th 1856

Hon. Elihu Whittier
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington, D.C.

Sir

Your favours of 12th
17th & 18th of January last were received on
12th inst.

The first in relation to account of
Robert Moore Esq for printing laws in
Newspapers. The 2^d account of Abel
Bush Esq for printing Journals of House
and Council, and certain laws in pamph-
let form. Session 1854-55. 3^d account of
same for printing Journal of Council
Session 1853-54.

To the matter of Robert Moors account I
have called the attention of the Governor Curry
and informed him of the contents of your
letter on the subject. Governor Curry will
see Mr M. in a few days at Salem City and
I hope we shall be able to adjust the account
at an early day to the satisfaction of all con-
cerned.

The Journals of the Council and House of
Representatives for Session 1853-54 were
printed and bound in New York, and by
the words - The work on the Journals &c
was expected in this Territory in my
letter of 13th October 1855 I intended only
to refer to the Journals of ^{Session} 1854-55 and
the 4 pamphlets containing laws rela-
-ting to Elections, Schools & Roads & fur-
-ther

I remain Very Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
B. H. H. H.

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, March 17th 1854

Hon James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D. C.

Sir

I have to request that the sum of two thousand four hundred and forty five Dollars of the Appropriation for Compensation and mileage of the members of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory, Officers and Clerks and Contingent Expenses of the Assembly be forwarded to me at your earliest convenience in drafts, each of the amount of \$2000.⁰⁰ or less, to enable me to pay Expenses of the Legislative Assembly as follows.

Amount due for printing Journals of Council. Session 1853-54 \$ 341 10

Printing 4 pamphlets, containing Laws relating Schools, Elections and Roads and Ferries

Session 1853-55 (Specially Allowed) 900 76

Printing Journals of Council and House. Session 1854-55 3383 73

Printing binding &c 500 Copies of Statutes 1853-54 and 1854-55 together in Vols such amount as shall be allowed therefor by Comptroller. (Supposed) 500 00
For Furniture Stationery Room Rent &c. And Expense incurred necessary by the burning of the State House at Salem December 30th 1853 together with all the Stationery furniture &c previously purchased

for and used by the Assembly
 Amounting to the sum of ——— \$1644.10
 From which deduct the sum of ——— 11225.59
 remaining in my hands as per ——— 780.58
 Account rendered February 25th 1856
 Leaving amt requested ——— \$10445.00

I am Very Respectfully
 Yours and Servant
 B. F. Harding
 Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
 Secretary's Office
 Salem March 17th 1856

Hon. Eliza Whittier
 First Comptroller of the Treasury
 Washington D.C.
 Sir

By reference to my
 Account rendered 25th February 1856
 it will be seen that only the sum of
 \$780.58 remains in my hands.
 Consequently before I can pay the
 accounts received with your favours
 of 12th 17th 18th of January last. and
 other unsettled accounts it is necessary
 that I receive money from the Treasury.
 By this mail I forward to the Hon. Secre-
 tary of the Treasury a requisition for the sum
 of \$10445. a copy of which is herewith
 enclosed.

In the estimate is included an item
 of \$5000. for printing the Statutes (Revised
 Volume containing Laws of 1853-54 &
 1854-55) What amount may be
 required for that work I cannot

tell, but suppose \$5000. will certainly
cover it

There is also included an item of \$1600.
for Room Rent, Stationery, furniture &
lights. And fitting up Rooms &c for
the Assembly, after the burning of the
State House (30th of December last) which
includes all the expense for such purposes
In the amount of \$1600. is included \$500.
for rent of Rooms. The amount to
be paid for that purpose will be govern-
ed by your answer to my letter of 9th
January last on the subject of Rent
&c

It is impossible for me to make any
accurate estimate of the amount of
money I shall need to discharge these
claims. While there are a portion un-
certain in amount.

I desire money enough to pay them
or so much as shall be found justly
due and no more. I prefer that
no money shall remain in my hands
for any considerable length of time

I am very respectfully
Your obedient Servant
B. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's office
Salem April 21st 1856

Hon. Oliver Whitney,
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D C

Sir

Your favor of March 4th 1856 with its inclosures was received on the 15th inst. And on same day was exhibited to Mr. Bush. He informed me that he could not accept the sum of \$1791.56 stated to be due him on account of printing Statutes of 1853-54 and 1854-55 and Receipt in full therefor, because of the disallowance of Compensation for the Re-printing of the Statutes of 1853-54 which he considers himself justly and legally entitled to, and for the further reason that he believes there is error in the measurement of laws of 1854-55.

It is my duty and no less my inclination to obey strictly instructions in regard to disbursements of money intrusted to my care. Yet it would have pleased me personally if the account I am instructed to pay had embraced the reprinting of 500 Copies of Statutes 1853-54 with those of 1854-55.

For it seems but just that Mr. Bush be paid therefor, in as much as it was ordered by the Territorial Assembly, the power that created the office of Territorial Printer and elected him thereto and which is his duty to obey. There was great necessity for the order to reprint 500 Copies. Of the 1000 Copies first ordered 500 had been lost by shipwreck and the remaining 500 were not enough

to supply the Magistrates and Officers in the Territory with each a copy. I therefore think the Assembly acted wisely in making the order even though the expense shall have to be paid from the Territorial Treasury. One thousand copies are not as many as should be distributed for the proper information of the People of the Territory.

But under all these Considerations I could not have desired such payment from the Treasury of the United States if my own opinion were as that expressed in the letter of the Hon the Secretary of the Treasury a copy of which you had the kindness to send me. But I was and still am of the opinion that under the 11th Section of the Act to organize this Territory, providing that a sufficient sum shall be appropriated annually, to defray the expenses of the Legislative Assembly the printing of the Laws &c. And ~~the~~ Consideration of the Extraordinary Circumstances under which the work was done the payment might legally have been allowed.

Under the instructions I think I am not authorized to pay Mr Bush the amount stated to be due him. Unless he accepts in full of the account, which he expresses himself unwilling to do. Will it not be proper to pay him the amount and take his receipt therefor (not in full) and leave the account open that he may pursue such course as he may think proper to obtain such further compensation as he claims himself entitled to?

I am Very Respectfully
Yours &c &c &c
B. H. Harrison

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem May 26th 1856

Hon Elisha Whittelsey,
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Sir

Your favour of
April 3^d 1856 advising me of the adjust-
ment of my accounts &c was rec^d on the
17th inst and answer delayed until this
time that I might confer with Mr Bush in
regard to the finding of your Office upon
incidental printing for Session of 1854-55.
The adjustment is satisfactory, excepting
the disallowance of \$14.56 for Compo-
sition on Treasurers Report. This Compo-
sition was twice charged, for the reason
that it was in fact twice performed, in
consequence of a second order being made
after the first had been performed and
type ~~distributed~~. He therefore claims
that this item should be allowed.
The other items for which Composition
was twice charged and disallowed.
Mr Bush is not positive that Composition
was twice performed, and admits the dis-
allowance to be proper.
The Journals of the last Session were
copied by the Chief Clerks of the two
Houses, as heretofore, for which they
claim the sum of \$90.00 each. I in-
formed them before the work was com-
menced of the disallowance of payments
for such service at the Session previous.
And that I could make no other
payments of the same nature, except

I rec^d further instructions. But they have
done the work and I hope I may be instru-
-cted to pay them = The journals of the Office
-ly in this Territory never have been printed
daily: but shall endeavor to have them
so printed at the next Session.

The payment of Rent to which you
refer, as not being made and charged
in consecutive Order, I presume, was
the payment of \$110.98. for Office rent
to J. W. Arsmith Esq. Voucher 1. Abstract
D - Mr Arsmith was living out of
Town, some 10 miles from the Office.
And the payment was made the first
time it was called for, and would have
been sooner made if sooner called for.
Such irregularities are to some extent un-
-avoidable.

I thank you for the several suggestions
contained in your letter in regard to
making up accounts. Payments &c

I am Very Respectfully

Yours Obedt Servt

B F Harding

Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon

Secretary's Office

Salem, June 12th 1856

Hon Eliza Whitney
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Sir

By mail which
arrived at this place on 10th inst I
rec^d your letter of ^{30th} April last on
the subject of News papers furnish-
-ed

Members of Legislature Assembly at last
Session. And have paid Mr Bush's account
for 118 Copies of Oregon Statesman &
furnished \$118.00. That being the same
rate at which papers furnished at
the previous Session were paid for. And
well bring that expense within \$350.00
I also rec'd by same mail. Yours of
May 1st enclosing letter to J. W. Beal Esq
on the subject of copying Journals &
Vocals for Territorial printer. Which will
be handed to Mr Beal first opportunity.
In my letter to you of May 26th I spoke
of the Claims for such Service last Sep-
-tem.

Yours of May 2^d and the Drafts for
the advance of \$10.445, Thru Mr.
-tained were also rec'd by same mail

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B L Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem July 5th 1856

Hon Alaska Whittier
Act Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Sir

Your favor of May
17th with Copy of letter of same date to
Edward Hamilton Esq late Secretary &
Requesting me to demand of him the sum
of \$2751.25 stated to be due the United States
was received on 30th ult. In accordance

With your request I immediately proceeded to
Portland, where Mr Hamilton resides and on the
3^d inst. presented to him a written demand a copy
of which is herewith enclosed.

He informed me verbally that he could not com-
ply with the demand, and would give me his
reasons in writing by next mail, which I will
forward to you.

In course of conversation between us however
he stated his reasons substantially as follows

That he does not consider himself justly
indebted to the United States, and wishes to
bring the questions in regard to his accounts
before the Hon. the Secretary of the Treasury
and hopes for the ultimate allowance of
of items now disallowed, which make up
the amount stated to be due from him to
the United States.

I Am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B. L. Hancock
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, July 19th 1856

L. B. Smith Esq.
First Auditor of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Sir

Herewith I transmit
Accounts - Vouchers Abstracts &c for disbursement
to as Secretary of Oregon for Legislative Contingent
and Miscellaneous Expenses of the Territory from
the 25th February 1856 to 19th July 1856. which please
receive

Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, July 21st 1858

Hon. Elisha A. Litchell
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Sir

By this mail I forward
to 1st Auditor Accounts for disbursements
from 2nd February to this date, amounting
in the aggregate to \$1149.80 leaving a balance
against me of \$310.68.

In the account are two charges \$50. each -
(Vouchers 34 and 35) for payments to F. S. Hayt
Territorial Librarian, on account of salary
from 1st January 1856 to 1st July 1856.

Mr Hayt claims to be justly entitled to the full
~~amount~~ salary of \$250. per year or \$62.50 for
each quarter. And his accounts have
been made out and presented accordingly
as per said Vouchers. But not being
fully satisfied that full salary should
be allowed, in as much as nearly all the
of the library was destroyed by fire the
State House I declined to pay full salary
and paid on each of the quarterly acc-
ounts presented the sum of \$50. believing that
sum to be justly due beyond question.
I shall be pleased to receive instruction
to pay the full amount of salary here-
for allowed, if you think it is
proper.

I herewith enclose a letter from Mr Hayt
to myself of this date, upon the subject
to which I beg leave to ~~ask~~ ^{refer} your attention.
You for a full statement of the
Case

There is one other Charge (Voucher 37) for
my traveling expenses actually and necessarily
incurred in going to Portland to demand of
Edward Hamilton late Secretary of the Amt
due from him to the U.S. I do not know
whether this is a legal Charge. I made it
because I thought first. If it is legal I hope
it may be allowed if not let it be rejected
I also transmit herewith the written answer
of Edward Hamilton late Secretary &c. to
the demand upon him by me, for payment
of the amount due from him to the U.S.

I am very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

B. S. Harding

Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon

Secretary's Office

Salem July 21st 1856

Sam James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury U.S.
Washington, D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to request
that the sum of 186 90:00 of the Appropriation
"for Mileage and Compensation of Members
of the Legislative Assembly" of the Territory of
Oregon, Officers Clerks and Contingent Expens-
es of the "Assembly", be forwarded to me at
the earliest Convenience in drafts of \$2000.-
each to enable me to pay expenses of the Legis-
lative Assembly as follows.

For Printing Laws and Journals of the
Assembly, Session 1853-56

3000.00

" Mileage and per diem of Members Officers

and Clerks, Session 1856-57

40000.00

" Printing Laws and Journals of the
Assembly, Session 1857-58

3000.00

For Rent of Rooms for Assembly and Green for	
1st January 1856	\$ 600.00
" Fitting same for Session 1856-57	310.00
" Salary of Librarian One year from the	
1st July 1856	250.00
" Stationery for Session 1856-57.	500.00
" Lights Fuel &c "	300.00
" Rent of Secretary's Office One year from	
July 1856	150.00
Amounting to	\$ 1890.00
From which deduct	310.00
Now remaining my hands	\$ 1869.00
Which have	
the sum above requested	

I Am Very Respectfully
 Your Obedt. Servt
 B. J. Harding
 Secy of Oregon

Secretary of Oregon
 Secretary's Office
 Salem, July 31st 1856

San Eliseo Whittier
 First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
 Washington, D.C.
 Sir

I herewith enclose a copy
 of Requisition this day forwarded to the Hon
 the Secretary of the Treasury.

There is one item \$3000. to pay for printing
 Laws and Journals of last Session.
 Mr. Bush informs me that the other bills
 will amount to near that sum. The work is
 now done except the binding.

There is also other item of \$3000. for advances
 to be made to the Printer, as the work of printing
 for the next Session progresses. I put \$3000.

believing that will be near half what the printing, incidental, fees, and Journals for that Session will amount to.

The amounts, I have fixed for the several items are near what will be required, and if the State of my accounts will permit it of it, I think the full amount requested, should be transmitted.

Will you please inform me whether the time for payment of drafts drawn on Assistant Treasurer at New York is limited.

It is more safe and convenient to keep drafts than money, and if there is no limited time for their payment I would prefer to dispose of them as the money is required, from 1st Dec to 15th or 20th of February.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
R. H. Starnes
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem August 13th 1836

Hon Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D. C.
Sir

Herewith I enclose the act of A. Bush Esq Territorial printer for work on Census and House Journals of Legislative Assembly for Session 1835-36.

I forward by this mail two Copies of each of said Journals. Adverting to yourself, that the work may be measured and estimated at your Office. I hope it may be convenient to return the funds.

upon this work, to me at an early day that I may
make payment in full out of the sum I have
lately requested to be forwarded.

I am very respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretarys Office
Salem Sept 15th 1856

Hon J Biggs
Register of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.
Sir

Your Communication of
July 29th 1856 has been rec^d. And as requested
I submitted the following Estimate of the Expenses
of the Territorial Government of Oregon for the
fiscal year ending June 30th 1858.

For Salary of Governor Chief Justice and
two Associate Justices of the Supreme Court
And Secretary of the Territory

\$ 1250 00

Act of 14th August 1848. ~~Statute~~ ^{Ext large}

Vol 9. Page 323. And Act of 27th

July 1854. Statute 1854-55. Page 311

For Contingent Expenses of the Territory

1500 00

For Compensation and Mileage of Members
of the Assembly, the Compensation of Officers
And Clerks and Contingent Expenses of
the Assembly

20.000 00

I am very respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem. Sept 13th 1856

Hon Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Sir

Your favour of August
4th 1856 transmitting the finding of your Office
upon Account of A. Bush Esq. for printing
Laws of Territory Enacted at Session 1855-56
is rec^d and has been exhibited to Mr Bush
He is dissatisfied with the Allowance for
"Covers Comp. press work. Paper \$ 11.75"
This seems like a mistake.

There were 1000. Copies of the laws, and I think
for the folding stitching. Covering. And the paper
for the covering a larger amount should be allowed
The work certainly could not have been done
for that sum.

The account will be paid so soon as I re-
ceive funds ~~in requisition~~ already re-
quested.

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B. L. Harding
Secy. of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem. October 18th 1856

Hon Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Sir

I herewith enclose
an account of Richard J. White Chief
Clerk of the House of Representatives of the
Territory of Oregon.

1852-53, for services in Copying laws, Journals &c
of that Session for Publication by the Legislative
Printer. This account was once before subm-
itted to you by Secretary Curry, and by your
letter to him dated Nov 9th 1853. he was authorized
to ~~pay~~ ^{\$90.75, 76} it. I think the account has not
been paid. It was not presented to me until
after I was informed of the suspension of
charges in my accounts for payments made
for similar services. And I then declined to
pay it. It is now transmitted together with
a letter in pencil marked in regard to it, from
C. P. Belver Esq. White's City, for your
consideration and instruction.

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
D. L. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, October 18th 56

Hon Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington, D. C.

Sir

Yours favor of August
25th 1856 informing me of the adjustment of
my accounts from November 15th 1855 to February
25th 1856 has been rec^d.

Balance due the U.S. stated to be \$10,656.33 I think
it should be \$14.56 more or 10,670.90.

For the reason that Mr Bush refunded to me the
full amount of \$114.42. Shown by Report
122.257. Voucher No 13. A Bush printing Bill
as over charged on account of incidental
printing. Session 1857-58. He also refunded

the sum of \$111.48 an account of over addition
of said Voucher. Making in all the sum
of \$225.90. Which sum I Credited to the U.
S. in my last account, rendered July 19th 1856.
I think it will be proper for me to pay Mr
Bush \$14.56, and take Vouchers therefor and
Charge the same in my next account agst
the U.S. which will make my own ac-
counting even in that respect.

Yours of Sept 1st 1856, informing me of
the advance of \$18,690.00 on requisition of
July 21st 1856 has also been rec^d, and by
same mail Treasury Warrants upon
Assistant Treasurer at New York amount-
ing to the sum of \$18,690.00 were rec^d.
Drafts on New York are Cashied, more
readily and with less trouble in this Territory
than Drafts on San Francisco could be for the
reason that our Merchants make their
purchases in the former place and direct
them (the drafts) to transmit by mail. All
that I have hitherto received have been taken
at the Office. I hope the Department
will continue, when funds are necessary
to send drafts on the Assistant Treasurer
at New York.

I am very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Serv^t
B. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem October 18th 1856

San Eliska Whittsey
List Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington City D.C.

Sir
Your favour of Sept 2^d 1856 accompanied
by form of ~~Official~~ Bond, was rec^d on 18th inst.
The Bond has been entered into by myself &
Surtis, and because of the absence of Chief
Justice Williams - in a distant County holding
a Term of Court - is certified by a Clerk
of a Court of Record in accordance with
the directions contained in your letter and
is herewith returned for approval and
filing

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Serv^t
B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Executive Office
at Salem, December 25th 1856

J. J. Smith Esq
First Auditor of the Treasury U. S.
Washington D. C.

Sir
I request please receive
accounts, vouchers &c for disbursements made by
myself as Secretary of the Territory of Oregon from
1st day of July 1856, to 20th day of December 1856
I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Serv^t
B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem December 25th 1856

Hon. Elihu Whittier
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Sir

I have this day forwarded
-ed by mail, to First Auditor, account for
disbursements made in payment of "Legislation
Contingent and Miscellaneous Expenses of the
Territory from 19th day of July 1856 to 20th day
of December 1856. Amounting in the aggregate to \$425⁰⁰/₁₀₀
which leaves in my hands the sum of \$147⁴⁰/₁₀₀

I have appended to the Abstract full
Explanations of all items over which I
thought a question could be raised, which
I hope may make them appear proper
and just

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Serv^t
B. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
February 3rd 1857

Hon. Elihu Whittier
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Sir

By mail which carries
this I forward to you Copies of all incidental
printing for the Session of the Assembly
1856-57 just Closed. And herewith the Book
bill for the work. Amounting in the —

aggregate to \$2793 ⁷/₁₀₀. That the same
may be measured and estimated at
your Dept.

I have advanced to Mr Bush on this
work to the amount of \$1500. ⁰⁰/₁₀₀ but will
not not include such advance in my
next account - that I will forward this
month - but hold the receipt of Mr
Bush until I shall be informed of
the amount found due by the Depart-
ment. then pay the whole account &
make but one charge for the same

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B. L. Hanning
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem. February 10th 1857

J. L. Smith Esq
Sir

I herewith please receive
accounts - Vouchers Abstracts &c - for disburse-
-ments made by myself as Secretary of Oregon from
the 20th day of December 1856 to this date. am-
-ounting in the aggregate to the sum of \$11683.65

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B. L. Hanning
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, Feb 10th 1857

J L Smith Esq
First Auditor of Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Sir

Herewith please receive
accounts for disbursements made by me
as Secy of Oregon from Dec 20th 1856 to
Feb 10th 1857. amounting in the aggregate
to the sum of \$11,688.65⁰⁰

I am very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
W H Harding

Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem February 14th 1857

Hon Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington City D.C.

Sir

By same mail with
this I forward to first Auditor of the Treasury ac-
counts for disbursements as Secretary of this Territory
from December 20th 1856 to February 10th 1857.

The Charges are all for the usual and ordinary
Expenses, and I think need no explanation
except Nos 6-7 & 8 payments for stenogra-
phers furnished to members of the Assembly
at the last Session - 1856-57. which I
think are justified by a Special Order
by your letter in regard to the account.

A Bush Bdg for papers furnished at the previous
Session - 1855-56 - bearing date April 30th 1856
a copy of which letter is forwarded with the
accounts.

The accounts for papers so furnished
~~are not~~^{numbers} all at the last Session have not all
been presented for payment, but their ag-
gregate amount will be up than \$350.00

I am very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B. L. Harding
Secy of Regs

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem. April 13th 1857

Sam Elisha Whittelsey
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Herewith enclosed please
receive three accounts, of A Bush Bdg Territorial
Printer. One for printing &c of Journal and
Appendix of Council Session 1856-57, amount-
ing to the sum of \$664.⁰⁰/₁₀₀. One for printing &c
of Journal and Appendix of House of Rep^s
same Session \$1097.⁰⁰/₁₀₀. One for printing Session
Spirs 1856-57 - 703.05. Amounting in the aggregate
to the sum of \$2464.⁰⁵/₁₀₀.

By same mail this I also forward one copy each
of Council and House Journal and of Session
Spirs. Session 1856-57. That the work may be
re-measured and estimated at your Office. Which
I hope may be done as early as convenient. And
also returned that Mr Bush may be paid for the work
I am &c &c
B. L. Harding

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem April 27th 1857

San Eliska Whittlesy
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Your letter of March 16th 1857
with Accompanyments relative to the Claim of James
Taylor whose Seat as Member of last Assembly was
Contested by J. W. Moffitt, has been rec^d
Believing that in justice Mr Taylor ought to be
paid for 8 days service and mileage, I regret that I
cannot under the circumstances and the terms of
your letter, feel authorized to pay him without
further delay.

The certificate of Mr Grover Speaker &c showing
that Mr Taylor served as a Member &c from County
of Clatsop 8 days &c I never saw until I rec^d
your letter. When Mr Taylor called upon me
for pay, he only laid before me the resolve of
the assembly, that Mr Taylor was entitled
to per diem & mileage, upon which I could
make no payment, for the reason stated that
it afforded no data from which the ~~amount~~
amount could be estimated.

I stated to Mr Taylor at the same time that I
should not feel authorized to pay his claim
on a proper voucher, without instruction
from your office. Which is probably the
reason he did not call on me after getting
the certificate.

At the close of the Session Mr Moffitt the
Contestant - presented the Certificate of Mr
Grover the Speaker showing that he Moffitt
had served sixty days as a member, which
covers the same time specified in Taylor's

Knowing that Mr Moffitt had been in Salem during the whole Session and knowing from Report that he had contested and obtained the seat claimed by Taylor. that both were admitted to seats within the Bar of the House during the Contest, and never having seen the Certificate given Taylor. I pay Mr Moffitt according to his certificate for sixty days Service & Mileage - See Voucher No 18. Abstract of - February 10th 1857.

The instruction to pay Mr Taylor per diem for 8 days Service seems to be based upon the supposition that Mr Moffitt had not been paid for same time.

I have stated the foregoing facts in explanation of the payment to Moffitt. And beg^{to} enquire whether per diem can be paid to Mr Taylor after Mr Moffitt has rec^d pay for the same time which he Taylor. Claims Compensation

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Serv^t

B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem, May 4th 1857

Sam James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury U.S.
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have to request that the sum of ~~three~~ thousand dollars (3000) of the Appropriation "For Compensation and Mileage of the Members of the Legislative Assembly, Officers, Clerks and Contingent Expenses of the Assembly" of the Territory of Oregon

be transmitted to me by mail in drafts of one thousand dollars each, on the Assistant Treasury at New York, at the earliest convenience, to enable me to pay the contingent and miscellaneous expenses of the Territory as follows

For incidental printing of Session of the Assembly 1856-57 \$2794.00

" Printing Laws and Journals for same Session 2463 00

" Payments on Rent of Office, Rent of Rooms for Assembly, Salary of Territorial Librarian and other incidental expenses, between this date and the 1st day of December next 800 00

Amounting to the sum of — \$6057 00

From which deduct the amount remaining in my hand on the 10th day of February last, the date of my last account rendered by me 3057 00

Which leaves the amount of \$3000.00

Above requested

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salmon May 4th 1857

Hon Charles Whittier
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.

Sir

By same mail with this I forward to You the Secretary of the Treasury a request for the sum of \$3000.00, a copy of which is herewith inclosed.

Of the amount \$3057.00 remaining my balance

on the 1st of February last, the date of my last account
I have advanced ^{#2820} to Mr Bush Territorial Printer, on
printing of last Session. And the sum has
been disbursed in payment of rent and two other
small accounts.

For paying the balance due on printing of last
Session and incidental expenses between this date
and ~~the~~ ^{the} next the next Meeting of
the Assembly, the Office will probably need
about the sum requested. And I hope it may
be forwarded in drafts on the Assistant Treasury
at New York, not exceeding in amount \$1000 =
As I can procure coin in drafts of that amount
much more conveniently than upon check of
large amount

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
P L Marching
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem. Nov 5th 1856

Hon Esq. Whittesey
Last Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I herewith transmit
an account of Wm L Rector for 334 feet of Shelving
for Territorial Library at \$15. per 100 feet. #50.05
And 1 Months rent of Library Room. 15.05
The first item accrued as follows. The Room
occupied as a Library Room was owned by
and rented of Mr Rector. by Secretary Hamilton
and continued to be occupied for the purpose
of the Library until the 1st day of January last.
P L M

Mr Rector before the Library was placed in the Room, fitted it up with Shelves &c in neat and convenient Manner at his own Cost. When the Library was ordered by the Assembly to be removed to the State House the Room designed for it. was unfinished and not provided with Shelves for the Books &c and the Territorial Librarian without the Permission of Mr Rector. removed the Shelves to the Room in the Capitol building. Set them up and placed the Books upon them, under the belief that they belonged to the Territory, and they were destroyed with the building. That the Shelves were worth the sum of \$50⁰⁰ I have no doubt. But I desire to be informed whether that sum can be paid from funds appropriated to defray the expenses of the Legis^{lature} Assembly.

The other sum: 1 Mantle, sent \$15.⁰⁰ I think is clearly unobjectionable

I Am Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B. Hanning
Secy of Oregon

Secretary of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem August 6th 1857

John W Midill
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.,
Sir

Your favour of 13th June 1857 informing me of an advance of \$3000. in accordance with my request of May 4th 1857. has been rec^d. and

5-7
Same mail I rec^d Drafts on A^{pt} Treasury
at New York for the said sum of \$3000.
I take occasion in this place to acknowledge
the rec^t of Your letter dated May 2nd 1857
advising me of the adjustment of my
accounts from December 20th 1856 to February
10th 1857. And say that the adjustment is
satisfactory to myself, excepting the dis-
allowance of \$3.00 in "Report 125,750. Dec-
"19th item 7. 30 inkstands 40^c (4P) each
"Carried out \$15.00 instead of \$12.50"
Which item was fully explained in a
former letter addressed to Comptroller
Whittham

Yours very Respectfully
Your Obedt Serv^t
J. F. Harding
Secretary of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem August 10th 1857.

J. L. Smith Esq
First Auditor of Treasury U.S.
Washington City, D.C.

Sir

Herewith please
receive accounts vouchers &c for disburs-
ments made by myself from February
10th 1857 to August 10th 1857

I am very Respectfully
Your Obedt Serv^t
J. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem August 10th 1857

Hon W McMill
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington City, D. C.

Sir

By same mail
with this I forward to First Auditor, accounts
for disbursements between February 10th 1857 and
this date. Amounting to the sum of \$3682.75.
Accompanying the Abstract are full explanations
intended to remove all room for doubts as to the
propriety of the several items included in it
being paid by the U.S.

I also forward this day, a request to the Hon
the Secretary of the Treasury for an amount
of Money to defray the expenses of next
Session of the Legislative Assembly, a
copy of which is herewith enclosed.

I hope the amount requested may be for-
warded in drafts on the Assistant Treasury
at New York - Not exceeding in amount
\$2000.00 each - as early as the convenience of
the Department will allow, as there will
be no more than time for them to reach me
before the money will be wanted.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
W F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem. August 10th 1857

Hon Howell Cobb
Secretary of the Treasury U.S.
Albany N. Y. D. C.

Sir

I have to request that the sum of \$16300. of the appropriation "for Mileage and Compensation of Members of Legislative Assembly, Officers Clerks and contingent expenses of the Assembly" be forwarded to me at the earliest convenience in drafts on Assistant Treasurer at New York - not exceeding the amount of \$2000. ^{or} each - to enable me to pay expenses of the Legislative Assembly as follows.

For Mileage and per diem of Members	
Officers & Clerks. Session 1857-58	11000 00
" Rent of Rooms for Assembly one Year from 1 st January 1858	600 00
" fitting up same ^{for} Session 1857-58	300 00
" Stationery for Session 1857-58.	300 00
" Lights fuel &c " " "	350 00
" Rent of Secys Office 1 Year	150 00
" Rent of Room for Library 1 Year	150 00
" Salary of Librarian 1 Year	250 00
Amount requested	\$16300 00

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt

B. H. Swearing
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretarys Office
Salem Sept 10th 1857.

Sam W McMill
First Comptroller of the Treasury.
Washington D.C.

Sir

Your letter of July 16th
1857. enclosing Accounts of A. B. Rush. Esq for
printing journals of Assembly and Session

Leaves for Session 1856-57, with Computations made in
Your Office attached to each. And of July 18th
1857, ~~transmitting~~ accounts of same for incidental
printing for Session of the Assembly 1856-57, with
finding of Your Office attached have been
received.

The sum stated to be due on each has been paid
and Mr Bush's receipt taken in full satisfac-
-tion

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B. H. Harnish
Secy of Oregon

Treasury of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salmon, Sep^r 10th 1857

Hon W. M. Mitchell
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.
Sir

Your favour of July 10th
1857 in reference to the Claim of James Taylor
whose Seat ~~in the~~ House of Representatives of
Legislative Assembly, was contested and
awarded to J. W. Moffitt, has been rec^d
and Mr Taylor informed of the decision
and that the Claim will be paid when
the vouchers are signed,
Mr Moffitt has also been informed of
the decision and an account for the over
payment forwarded to him.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B. H. Harnish
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secy's Office
Salem February 16th 1858

L. L. Smith Esq
First Auditor of the Treasury U.S.
Washington D.C.

Sir

Herewith please receive
accounts for my disbursements from
10th day of August 1857 to 16th day of
February 1858. Amounting in the aggregate
to the sum of \$

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servt
B. F. Hanning
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem Feb 16th 1858

Hon W McMill
First Comptroller of the Treasury U.S.
Washington City D.C.

Sir

By this mail
I forward to First Auditor. Accounts for
disbursements from 10th day of August 1857
to 16th day of Feb 1858. Amounting in
the aggregate to the sum of \$

I think the accounts need no explanation further
than may be found on the face of the
Vouchers.

As it is probable that our present Territo-
rial Government, will be ended by the
Admission of the State of Oregon into the
Union upon the Constitution heretofore

adopted by the people of the Territory, and
presented to Congress at its present Session.
I would most respectfully ask to be in-
trusted as to what I shall do with the
various Articles of furniture &c used
by the Assembly. And in the Secretarys
Office, upon the organization of the
State Government.

I am very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt

B. H. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretarys Office
Salem May 31st 1858

Sam W. Medill

First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Herewith enclosed
please receive bills for incidental printing &
printing &c of laws & journals of Legislative
Assembly of this Territory, Session 1857-58, by
Abel Bush Esq. Territorial Printer amounting
in the aggregate to the sum of \$5237.25, also
a letter from Mr Bush addressed to myself, ex-
planatory of the accounts.

By same mail with this I forward specimen
Copies of all printing for said Session that the work
may be re-measured and estimated at your
Department. I have on 10th of July last ad-
-vanced on this work the sum of \$1500.00. And
~~most~~ respectfully request that the forwarding of
the Department on these bills may at the
earliest convenience be forwarded to this Office.

that Mr Bush may be paid in full
I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B. J. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem June 22^d 1858

Hon Howell Cobb
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington City, D.C.

Sir

I have to request that
the sum of \$500.00 of the Appropriation for
"Travels and Compensation of Members of Legislative
Assembly, Officers, Clerks and Contingent Expenses
of the Assembly" of the Territory of Oregon, be forwarded
to me at the earliest convenient time in drafts on the Assist-
ant Treasury at New York - Not exceeding in amount
\$2000.00 each - to enable me to pay ^{expense of} printing &c
laws and journals and incidental printing of Legislative
Assembly of said Territory Session 1857-58. Rent of Secy's
Office Library Rooms and for Legislative Assembly
and other Contingent Expenses

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B. J. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem June 22^d 1858

Hon W. Medill
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City, D.C.

Sir

I forward to Secretary of Treasury a request - Copy
of which is herewith inclosed - for the sum of
\$5000⁰⁰ to enable me to pay for printing &c
Laws & Journals, and incidental printing of
Legislative Assembly of this Territory Session
1857-58, and for Rent of Office, Library Room
Rooms for Assembly and such other contingent
expenses as may be necessarily incurred.

I do not state the amount which will be
required for paying each item because I do not
know the amount which will be found due
Mr Bush by the Department for printing, and
Bills which I forwarded to you with my letter
of 3rd May last, and which the money request-
ed is desired to pay.

I hope the finding of your Department upon
these bills and the money ^{now} requested may be
forwarded as early as convenience will permit
that I may pay Mr Bush the full amount due.

I am very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B F Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem August 9th 1858

Hon Howell Cobb
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have to request
that the sum of thirteen thousand dollars
(\$13,000) of the appropriation for
and Compensation of Members
Assembly Officers Clerks and

to me at the Earliest Convenience in Draft on
Assistant Treasurer at New York - ~~for~~ ^{each of} ~~the~~ ^{which} ~~is~~ ^{shall}
~~in amount \$2~~ Each of which shall
not exceed in amount the sum of \$2000⁰⁰
to enable me to pay expenses of the Legislative
Assembly as follows.

For Michage & Per diem of Members	
Officers & Clerks Session 1858-59	\$11000 00
" Stationery Session 1858-59	500 00
" Lights fuel &c "	500 00
" Repairing Rooms, &c "	400 00
" Salary of Librarian, 1 Year	250 00
" Stuns Specially Allowed Newspapers &c	350 00
	<u>\$13000 00</u>

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedient Servant
B. F. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem August 9th 1858

Hon W McMill
First Comptroller of the
Washington City, D. C.

Sir

I have forwarded this
day to the Hon The Secretary of the Treasury a
request for the sum of \$15000 a copy of
which is herewith inclosed
I think it very probable that sum will be
more than sufficient to pay the expenses
mentioned in the Representation. If so the
remainder can be very properly and
advantageously applied upon the printing of

by my letter of 22nd June last and and pay
Mr Bush in full for printing done for last
Session of the Assembly. I will then return
Accounts for disbursements of the \$1991.88. remaining
in my hands, and also the said \$5000.
I would have accounted for the disburse-
ments of the \$1991.88. before this time but
that \$1600⁰⁰ of it was advanced to Mr
Bush upon printing of last Session. And
I think it more convenient that his bill
be paid in full and have but one set
of Vouchers and Abstract.

Yours very respectfully
Your obedient Servant
B. L. Harshbarger
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretarys Office
Salem Nov 8th 1858

J. Smith Esq
First Auditor of the Treasury
Washington City D. C.

Sir

Herewith please receive
accounts for disbursements as Secy of Territory
of Oregon from 16th day of February 1858 to
8th day of November 1858. Amounting in
the aggregate to the sum of \$6664.39

I am very respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
B. L. Harshbarger
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem Nov 8th 1858

Hon W Medill
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.

Sir

By same mail
with this I forward to First Auditor. Accounts
for disbursements from 16th Feb'y 1858 to this
date amounting in the aggregate to the sum
of \$6664.39.

The accounts are as nearly in form of blanks
lately rec^d from your Office as I could
make them. But most of the vouchers
were taken before the blanks were rec^d.
In accounts hereafter rendered the form
will be strictly followed.

I have procured from Mr Bush "Lithonia Printer"
printed blanks for vouchers Abstracts &c, at a
cost of \$150. ⁰⁰ which I have charged in
the accounts now rendered.

Specimens of the Blanks I forward by mail
in order that it may be seen whether the price
charged is reasonable. I am informed that
it is in accordance with the going prices of
the country.

~~Your obedient servant~~

I am very Respectfully
Your Obedient Serv^t
B F Harding

that the sum of one thousand four hundred and fifty four (1454) dollars of the Appropriation for mileage and Compensation of Members of Legislature Assembly, Officers Clerks and Contingent Expenses of the Assembly be forwarded to me at the Earliest Convenience in Drafts on Assistant Treasurer at New York. to enable me to pay Expenses of Legislature Assembly as follows.

Balance due Members & Officers for per diem

at Session 1858-59

\$ 1215 00

Balance due an incidental Expenses of said

Session 1858-59

239 00

\$ 1454 00

Which Balance is fully explained by letter to First Comptroller of same date with this

I am Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

B. J. Harding

Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon

Secy's Office

Salem, March 16th 1859

Van Howell Cobb

Secretary of the Treasury U.S.

Washington D.C.

Sir

I have to request that the sum of (\$5000.00) five thousand dollars of the Appropriation for Compensation and mileage of Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Oregon be forwarded to me by mail in Drafts of one thousand dollars each on the Assistant Treasurer at New York. At the Earliest Convenience to enable me to pay Contingent and Miscellaneous Expenses

of the Territory as follows.

For Printing Laws and Journals
and incidental printing of the
Assembly at Session of 1858-59. \$4410.85
For Rent of Legislative Halls, Secy's Office
and Library Room and other
incidental expenses until 1st Oct 1859 589.15
\$5000.00

I Am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
B. Harding
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem March 16th 1859

Samuel McCall
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Sir

I herewith transmit Bills
of Territorial printer for printing the Laws & Journals &
incidental printing for the Legislative Assembly
of this Territory at Session of 1858-59. which amount
in the aggregate to the sum of \$4410.85. In these
accounts paper is charged at \$8.00 per Ream
As requested by your letter of January 3^d 1859
inclosing Copy of letter to Mr Bush in reference
to price of paper. I herewith inclose an original
business letter addressed to Mr Bush by L. P. Fisher
his business agent at San Francisco, dated
Feby 17th 1859. in which it is stated that
the price of paper of best used by Mr Bush
is in that City (our nearest market) \$7.00 per
ream and will not be less.
I am otherwise assured that it has not been less
the past year.

Freight from San Francisco to Portland in this Territory is \$20.00 per Ton. Storage and wharfage at Portland usually exceeds \$1.00 per Ton. And freight from Portland to this place is \$18.00 per ton. Which charges together with insurance added to first cost will I think make the paper cost Mr. Bush as much or more than \$8.00 per ton.

I believe the bills are in all respects just and correct. though my knowledge of the printing business is not sufficient to enable me to determine.

Copies of the work are forwarded to you by same mail with this, that the work may be remeasured and estimated at your office. Which I hope may be done at the earliest convenience and the findings inclosed to me that Mr. Bush may be paid the balance due him for the work: Two thousand dollars (\$2000) having been advanced upon it and charged in my account of 22 Feb'y last. I have also requested of the Hon the Secretary of the Treasury a further advance of \$5000.00 to enable me to pay the balance due on these bills and rents of Office Library Room & Legislative Hall and such other incidental expenses as may accrue between this time and 1st October next. As yet we have no information whatever of the admission of this Territory as a State into the Union. If however the State shall be admitted I hope you be pleased to afford me early instruction as to the winding up of the business of this office.

I am very respectfully
Your obedient Servant
W. B. Harrison
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem March 16th 1859

Hon W. M. McKim
First Comptroller of the Treasury
Washington City D.C.

Sir

In my letter of 14th inst enclosing bills of Territorial Printer for printing for Legislature Assembly of this Territory at Session 1858-59. When speaking of price of paper I said "herewith I enclose and Original business letter addressed to Mr Bush by J P Fisher his business agent at San Francisco dated Feb 17th 1859 &c This letter was by accident left out of the package and this morning found on my table. It is herewith enclosed.

I can now inform you with much pleasure that late in the evening of the 14th after my letters of that date were sent to the ^{post} office we received by express intelligence of the admission of Oregon into the Union as a State.

I am Very Respectfully
Yours Obedt Servant
W. H. H. H. H.
Secy of Oregon

Territory of Oregon
Secretary's Office
Salem May 14th 1859

Hon W. M. McKim
First Comptroller
Washington City D.C.

Sir

Yours of March 21st 1859 informing me of the adjournment of the Legislature of Oregon.

Legislation approved from 8th Nov 1858 to Feb 2nd 1859.

and of the suspension of Amount of \$24.71 charged in Stationery bill of J. A. & R. Moore as amt of bill of W. H. Smith & Co for count of evidence that Messrs Moore were authorized to collect said amount ~~was~~ ^{has been recd.} Herewith I transmit a Statement of W. H. Smith & Co showing the true state of that matter and the authority of Messrs Moore to collect the said amount, which I hope will be satisfactory and cause the allowance of the same in my favour.

I am &c

B. F. Harding
Secy of Org

Salem, Oregon June 14th 1859

Mr W. Melill
Comptroller & Co
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have recd no draft for Salary as Secretary of the late Territory of Oregon for quarter ending 31st March last. If it was forwarded by mail as usual it has miscarried and I hope another may be forwarded immediately. I am not yet informed of the time at which my Salary account will close. But I suppose that in as much as the appropriation was made for the year ending 30th June next that I will be paid for all the time that I have been engaged in performance of the duties of the office. That I think will be no more than just.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
B. F. Harding

Salem Oregon
July 5th 1859

W. L. Smith Esq
First Auditor &c
Washington D. C.

Sir

Herewith please receive
accounts for my disbursements as
Secretary of the Terr. Territory of Oregon
from Feb 2^d to Feb 12th 1859 amounting
in the aggregate to the sum of \$8119.57

I am very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
P. F. Harding

Salem Oregon
July 5th 1859

Sam W. Medill
First Comptroller
Washington City D.C.

Sir

I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of your favour of date
May 11th 1859. in reference to my request of 16th of
March 1859. for an advance of \$5000. And also
in reference to accounts &c

By same mail with this I forward accounts for
disbursements from Feb 2^d to Feb 12th 1859.

Amounting in the aggregate to the sum of \$8119.57
Which leave in my hands a balance of \$20.71 due U. S.

A portion of the amount of Voucher 12,384
has been paid since the date of those vouchers
but they were made and signed at the time
of date and a part of the amount due to
each paid. And on receipt of the sum
of \$464, advanced March 24th last the
balance is paid.

There are demands against U.S. on account of expenses
of Legislative Assembly of Territory of Oregon now
remaining unpaid as follows

Pacific Journal a Newspaper published
at Eugene City in this state. 9 Copies furnished
Members of Assembly Session 1858-59. \$ 9.00
I do not know who is entitled to receive the money
It has never been demanded.

J. D. Dryer for 42 Copies of the Oregonian
Newspaper published at Portland in this
state. furnished Members of Assembly.
Session 1858-59. \$ 42.00

W. L. Adams also for Newspapers furnished
at Session of 1858-59.

No bill has been presented the amount probably
does not exceed \$10.00

A Bush Territorial Printer One dollar -
in addition to the price \$7.00 heretofore paid
and allowed - for each ream of paper
allowed in the finding of your Office
on his bills for printing the laws journals
and incidental printing of Session 1857-58
which I was authorized to pay him by your
letter of January 3^d 1859. But not having
sufficient funds I have not yet paid
it.

A Bush Territorial printer for printing laws
journals and incidental printing Session 1858-59
on which I have paid \$2000.00 as charged
in my account of February 2^d 1859

J. H. Arding for Rent of Secretary's Office
from January 1st 1859 to March 16th 1859 that
being the day on which we first received
intimation of the admission of the Territory
as a state into the Union.

24 Months \$12.50 per month. \$31.25

Also for rent of Library Room for same
period: \$8.⁰⁰ per month \$20.⁰⁰
J. W. Nesmith rent of Legislative Hall
for same period at \$50. per month \$125.⁰⁰
B. F. Bonham for services as Librarian
for same period \$250.⁰⁰ per year \$57.³⁷
The account of T. J. Dryer was left with me
on the 8th day of February last. I found it
correct and supposing Mr. Dryer would call
on that day for his money the blanks receipt
and certificate were filled up. But he did not.
This bill together with the bills of E. J. Hardy
J. W. Nesmith and B. F. Bonham are herewith
forwarded. They are just and correct
and I hope they may be paid.
If drafts for the amounts paid due to
each shall be forwarded to them by mail
they will return receipts. Or if the drafts
are forwarded to me I will deliver them
to the parties and return the receipts.

I am very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
B. F. Bonham